

Let Us Heed Solomon's Words of Wisdom  
(Proverbs 3:5-6)

Introduction:

1. As we worship the Lord today we are observing the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first occasion when we met as a congregation.
2. We are grateful to:
  - a. God for His providential care and His abundant blessings (Psalm 41:13)
  - b. our friends and loved ones who have supported us and continue to do so
  - c. those who worship and serve on a regular basis.
3. In our lesson we are concentrating on the words of wisdom that Solomon recorded in Proverbs 3:5-6.
4. These instructions are appropriate for any occasion, and we need to study them regularly.

Discussion:

- I. (vs.5a) *"TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL THINE HEART"*
  - A. "Trusting in the Lord":
    1. involves depending on the Lord and having confidence in Him
    2. is to be done "with all the heart."
  - B. The Bible assures us that God will bless those who place their trust in Him.
    1. Psalm 34:8; 84:12
    2. Jeremiah 17:7-8
  - C. Solomon continued by mentioning a practice that must be avoided.
- II. (vs.5b) *"LEAN NOT UNTO THINE OWN UNDERSTANDING"*
  - A. Similar instructions are given throughout the Bible.
    1. Proverbs 3:7a
    2. Romans 12:16b
  - B. Naaman serves as an illustration.
    1. (2 Kings 5:9-12) For a time he leaned unto his own understanding.
    2. (2 Kings 5:13-14) After he stopped, his leprosy was healed.
  - C. The Bible also explains why we must avoid leaning unto our own understanding.
    1. Man's ways result in death (Proverbs 14:12; 16:25).
    2. What seems right to us may not please the Lord (Proverbs 16:2; 21:2).
    3. Trusting in our own hearts is foolish (Proverbs 28:26a).
    4. Man cannot direct his own steps by himself (Jeremiah 10:23).
  - D. After dealing with this practice that must be avoided, Solomon said, . . .
- III. (vs.6a) *"IN ALL THY WAYS ACKNOWLEDGE HIM"*
  - A. We are to seek guidance from God when we make decisions, make plans, or attempt to do anything.
  - B. Seeking guidance from God includes:
    1. searching His Word (Psalm 119:105)
    2. talking to Him through prayer (1 John 5:14-15).

Conclusion:

1. Practicing these words of wisdom from Solomon will enable us to receive a special blessing -- *"He [the Lord] shall direct thy paths"* (vs.6b).
2. In Psalm 23 David expressed his confidence in God's direction (vs.2b, 3b).
3. We have seen from Solomon's instructions that God's direction is not by accident.
4. Let us:
  - a. trust in the Lord with all our hearts
  - b. avoid leaning unto our own understanding
  - c. acknowledge the Lord in all our ways.