

# The Life That God Blesses

Proverbs 3:5-6



**Rock Hill Baptist Church**  
**605 Rock Hill Road**  
**Lexington, Tennessee 38351**

**Pastor David Buffaloe**  
**731-845-6104**  
**online at [bibleteacher.org](http://bibleteacher.org)**

**FOCAL Read Responsively Proverbs 3:5-6** Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. [6] In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

I was reading an article the other day when I ran across the word **triskaidekaphobia**. I wasn't reading a technical journal, a scientific journal, but a magazine article. I thought to myself, "What the heck does **triskaidekaphobia** mean?", so I looked it up. It means, according to the Webster's Dictionary, "**A fear of the number 13**".

Why did someone have to make up such a convoluted and complex word - a *seventeen letter word* that you can hardly pronounce - when you could just use *seventeen letters* to say "fear of the number 13"?

As humans we always seem to - quite naturally - want to make things harder on ourselves. Think about the word "**abbreviated**", which means "**to make a big word small**". Why didn't we make the word "**abbreviated**" itself smaller? I am always misspelling the word because it doesn't sound like it has two "b"s in it. And while I'm talking about "**misspelling**", how many times have you **misspelled "misspelling"**? Does it sound like it has two "s"s in it? It has two, but I usually "misspell" the word - and my computer "spell checker" reminds me how ignorant I am.

Men make things complicated and convoluted. Our words are often unclear and misleading. I think that

many times we use BIG WORDS in order to make ourselves feel superior to others. Why else would a sports column writer use the word "triskaidekaphobia". I find it interesting that we're always - as my momma says "Putting on airs", but God Himself, the Creator of everything, doesn't have to use big and convoluted words to talk to us mere mortals. God tells us through Isaiah:

**Isaiah 55:8-9** For my thoughts *are* not your thoughts, neither *are* your ways my ways, saith the LORD. [9] For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

God is immense compared to us, and His mind infinite whereas we are often easily distracted. His word to us is simple, clear, and to the point. When people say "I don't understand God's Word" the usual reason they don't understand it is they *don't take time to read it*. When people say "God's Word is filled with error" this claim is generally based on their own personal ignorance. They are parroting what they heard someone else say, or else read a portion of His Word out of context. God's Word is clear, concise, and pure. Ask the Lord "How can I live a life that is rewarding - not only pleasing to You, O Lord, but also satisfying for me?" How does God answer that question? He says:

**"Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."**

Could that be any clearer? In the original language of the Scripture God's statement is even clearer. He says "Trust" (בטח pronounced *baw-takh'*), that is "confidently lean on, trust, put your confidence in" the "LORD" (יהוה pronounced *yeh-ho-vaw'*), the Eternal and Great I AM with all your heart, and "lean not" (שען pronounced *shaw-an'*), that is, "quit leaning or resting on" your own understanding. In all your ways "acknowledge" Him (ידע pronounced *yaw-dah'*), that is, receive instruction or guidance from God, and He shall direct your paths or guide you in life.

The life that God blesses and rewards is the life that is surrendered to God. It is the life that says "not my will, but Thine, O God, be done". The more you rely on yourselves for blessing in life the less your blessing will be. If you want to have a life at one with God then you must rely on Him, seeking His guidance through His Word in your *whole life*.

May God guide you by His Word.

### **1. The Beginning Of The Blessed Life Comes When I Rely Entirely On God**

**FOCAL** Proverbs 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

Adrian Rogers once said "We live in the day of guided missiles and misguided men. We get places quicker than we used to, but we still don't know where we're

going". That is so very true. People are frantically searching for happiness, but they're not finding it. Why? Because they're looking in the wrong place. **They're putting their trust in the wrong place.**

The beginning of the blessed life only comes when I **completely trust in the God of the Bible.** This is the only way a person can be saved. The Bible says:

**Titus 3:5-7 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; [6] Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior; [7] That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.**

The salvation of a person is a complex thing. The Bible teaches us that **all men are sinners that need to be saved:**

**Romans 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;**

that we are all quite naturally born into this *spiritually dead* state. The Bible also tells us that

**1 Timothy 1:15 ... Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners ...**

God came from Heaven to earth. The Eternal Creator *lowered Himself:*

**Philippians 2:7-8 ... made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: [8] And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.**

He took our sins upon Himself. He took our guilt on Himself. Jesus Christ paid the penalty for our sin, giving Himself for **the whole world.** The Scripture further teaches that *when you call on Jesus for salvation you repent or turn away from your old life and trust completely in God.* Turning to God the Bible says that the Holy Spirit **regenerates** you, making you *spiritually* alive. The Holy Spirit *renews* you, making you a **new creature in Christ.** The Holy Spirit *indwells* you or comes to live inside the framework of your life.

There are *complex theological terms* that describe what God does to you at the point of salvation. Theologians use terms like *justification, regeneration, sanctification, glorification,* and so on. Do you need to understand these concepts in order to be saved? Absolutely not! **Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not to your own understanding,** and you shall be saved.

Just believe God!

The Bible tells us that Jesus was asked the question **"Who shall be greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven?"** The disciples had been battling over this question for some time, each believing that some inherent quality in

themselves would make them greater in God's Kingdom. The Bible says that Jesus ...

**Matthew 18:2-4 ... called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, [3] And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. [4] Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.**

How is a person saved? **By trusting in the Lord with all his heart.** How is a person lost? **By leaning on his own understanding.** Hell will be packed with theologians and Pharisees that knew all the answers but didn't know the question.

A person is saved by **trusting in the Lord with all his heart.** God has made a provision for the salvation of every person who will ever walk this earth. That provision is found in the Person of Jesus Christ. The Bible says that:

**Romans 4:24-25 .... if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead; [25] Who was delivered for our offenses, and was raised again for our justification.**

**Christ was delivered over the death so that we could be justified or declared righteous by God.** When you believe on Christ God credits the righteousness of Christ to *your* spiritual account. You are holy for He is holy.

You are clean because He is clean. You are children of the Most High because Christ, shedding His Blood for you, has earned you entrance into the family of God.

But all you need to know is - **trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not to your own understanding - and you shall be saved!**

## **2. Once Saved By Faith In Christ, I Live By Trusting Christ**

**FOCAL Proverbs 3:6** In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

**Word Study** As I mentioned before the word "acknowledge" is the Hebrew ( **יָדָע** pronounced yaw-dah' ) . This word is translated "**to know, acknowledge, observe, recognize, or receive instruction from**". The sense of the word is to *talk it over with God*. **In all your ways - everything you do - talk it over with God.**

The reason we get in trouble as humans is that we make our own determinations on what is right and wrong for our lives. Solomon writes:

**CONTEXT Proverbs 3:7-8** **Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. [8] It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.**

Pray over what you do before you do it! Talk it over with God. If Adam and Eve had talked it over with God, we wouldn't be in the mess we're in right now! The **Lord shall direct our paths** but we must stop wandering off

of the range. **Do not be wise in your own eyes. Fear God, and depart from evil.**

Though all sickness doesn't come on us because of sin, much of our sickness does come from sinful activity. This is why the Bible says **it shall be health to your naval, and marrow to your bones.** When we take sin to ourselves we bring sickness on ourselves. **In all your ways acknowledge God - talk it over with Him before you do it - and God Himself will guide you through life.** God says:

**Isaiah 58:11** And the LORD shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.

Those who live their lives following the guidance of God are blessed. God will prosper your health, and bless your business - as long as **"in all your ways you acknowledge Him"**. The Lord wants to bless us. He said:

**Psalms 32:8** I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: **I will guide thee with mine eye.**

When God speaks of "guidance with the eye" He is talking about *a very personal guidance*. When you guide something with your eye you have to be in the room to do it. God does not send an angel to guide His children. He Himself comes, He guides with the eye! What a

blessed thought this is that God would take such care over each of His children, but He does. His Word promises that He does.

When God says "no" to a thing, then it is "no", not "maybe". **Do not be wise in your own eyes. Fear the Lord and depart from evil.** Talk over everything with God.

Is what you want to do supported by the Word of God? If it isn't, then turn from it. What does God tell you to do in your heart as you pray about this situation? Obey Him implicitly.

**CONTEXT Proverbs 3:9-10** Honor the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: **[10] So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.**

How do you view your money? Is it YOUR money, or is it GOD'S MONEY that He lets you use? Dear friends, everything you have you have because of God's Grace. **Honor the Lord with your substance.**

**ILLUSTRATE** I have a cat in my house that's named *Specs*, or what I like to call *the psychotic cat*. This thing skulks around the house, and every now and then I get of glimpse of it. Specs has its every need met. It pays nothing for its food and water, and has a pretty nice place to live. This cat - when it sees me - runs away. It hides from its master until it needs something to eat. When it needs something to eat it comes out of hiding and rubs

up against me until I fill its bowl. Then its gone once more until it needs me again. I can't stand that cat!

Many of us treat God in the same way. We owe God everything. Ten percent of your money doesn't belong to God - all of it belongs to God. He gives you the health to work and the job to do.

You owe God more than 10% of your income and 1/7th of your week. You owe God everything. You owe God your life. **In all your ways acknowledge Him.**

When you honor God with your possessions God will, in turn, bless you the more. God expects you to invest that which He has given you for His glory. Jesus spoke a parable once called **The Parable of the Talents**. Read with me:

**Matthew 25:14-30** For *the kingdom of heaven is as a man traveling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods.* [15] **And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.** [16] **Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made *them* other five talents.** [17] **And likewise he that *had received* two, he also gained other two.** [18] **But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money.** [19] **After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.** [20] **And so he**

**that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliverdst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more.** [21] **His lord said unto him, Well done, *thou* good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.** [22] **He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliverdst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them.** [23] **His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.** [24] **Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art a hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strewed:** [25] **And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, *there* thou hast *that is* thine.** [26] **His lord answered and said unto him, *Thou* wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strewed:** [27] **Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and *then* at my coming I should have received mine own with usury.** [28] **Take therefore the talent from him, and give *it* unto him which hath ten talents.** [29] **For unto everyone that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath.** [30] **And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.**

In the parable we see three men given **talents - ancient units of money - "every man according to his several ability"**. What God has given you He has given you for His glory but **according to your ability**. Two of the three men invested their talents wisely, and both received the exact same commendation from the Lord. **"Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord."** The third man did absolutely nothing with his talent. He did not honor the Master. Because of this the Lord commanded **"cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."**

What's the point? A faith that does not honor God may be no faith at all.

The Bible says:

**Ephesians 2:10** For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

The Christian is designed to glorify God, to live for God, to work for God. You are designed, dear Christian, to work for God.

**3. I Will Trust In The Lord  
Even When Times Seem Dark**

**FOCAL** Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all

thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. [6] In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Every one of us has dark moments in our lives, times that we do not understand. **Worries, wounds, and wrongs.** We worry about tomorrow. We're wounded by others. We have sinned and done wrong in our own lives.

How do we fix the **worries, wounds, and wrongs?**  
We give them to God.

Give your worries to God.

**"Have a little talk with Jesus  
Tell Him all about your troubles,  
He will hear my faintest cry,  
And He will answer by and by.**

**Now when you feel a little prayer wheel turning,  
And know a little fire is burning,  
You will find a little talk with Jesus  
Makes it right."**

**C.H. Spurgeon** once said **"The only thing worry does is empty today of its joy."** Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not to your own understanding.

**Psalms 55:22** Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.

and

**Philippians 4:6-7** Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. [7] And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. <sup>NIV</sup>

Let God have the worry, and let Him have the wounding as well. Has somebody been mean to you? Does it seem as if the wicked are winning and you are perpetually losing. Do as God says:

**Psalms 37:7-9** Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass. [8] Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil. [9] For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth.

It is all yours, dear Christian, all yours. One day the children of the King will be exalted and the evil ones will be cast out of the Kingdom. Let go of the past. You might say "but they don't deserve to be forgiven". Dear friends, none of us deserved to be forgiven, but God forgave us anyway. Remember the Lord's Prayer, which says:

**Matthew 6:12** And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

You have been forgiven - so forgive whether they

deserve it or not. God will work it all out in the end anyway.

Finally, when I am **wrong** I will trust in the Lord. I will confess my sin to Him. Do not hide your sins from God, dear Christian. The Psalmist said:

**Psalms 32:3-5** When I kept quiet about my sin, my bones wasted away from crying all day long. [4] For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me. My strength was dried up as in the hot summer. [5] I told my sin to You. I did not hide my wrong. I said, 'I will tell my sins to the Lord.' And You forgave the guilt of my sin. <sup>New Living Translation</sup>

God forgives confessed sin. Cast your sins upon Him.

**1 John 1:9** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

When you stray from God - RETURN. Do not, like the prodigal son, wait until you are eating out of the hog trough before you repent and turn back to God. You will never grow spiritually until you are living surrendered to God. If you have strayed from God, dear believer, and are under God's chastening hand:

**CONTEXT Proverbs 3:11-12** My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction: [12] For whom the LORD loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son *in whom* he delighteth.

Repent. Turn back to God. **Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not to your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.**

May God bless and impart His Word to your hearts.

**FOCAL Read Responsively Proverbs 3:5-6** Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. **[6] In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.**

**Isaiah 55:8-9**

**1. The Beginning Of The Blessed Life Comes When I Rely Entirely On God**

**Proverbs 3:5; Titus 3:5-7; Romans 3:23; 1 Timothy 1:15; Philippians 2:7-8; Matthew 18:2-4; Romans 4:24-25** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**2. Once Saved By Faith In Christ, I Live By Trusting Christ**

**Proverbs 3:6; Proverbs 3:7-8; Isaiah 58:11; Psalms 32:8; Proverbs 3:9-10; Matthew 25:14-30; Ephesians 2:10**

**Word Study** "acknowledge" is the Hebrew ( **יָדָע** pronounced yaw-dah' ) . \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

You owe God more than 10% of your income and 1/7th of your week. You owe God everything. You



**FOCAL Read Responsively Proverbs 3:5-6** Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. [6] In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Isaiah 55:8-9

**1. The Beginning Of The Blessed Life Comes When I Rely Entirely On God**

Proverbs 3:5; Titus 3:5-7; Romans 3:23; 1 Timothy 1:15; Philippians 2:7-8; Matthew 18:2-4; Romans 4:24-25

---

---

---

---

**2. Once Saved By Faith In Christ, I Live By Trusting Christ**

Proverbs 3:6; Proverbs 3:7-8; Isaiah 58:11; Psalms 32:8; Proverbs 3:9-10; Matthew 25:14-30; Ephesians 2:10

**Word Study** "acknowledge" is the Hebrew (יָדָע) pronounced yaw-dah' .

---

You owe God more than 10% of your income and 1/7th of your week. You owe God everything. You

owe God your life. In all your ways acknowledge Him.

---

---

---

---

**3. I Will Trust In The Lord Even When Times Seem Dark**

Proverbs 3:5-6; Psalms 55:22; Philippians 4:6-7; Psalms 37:7-9; Matthew 6:12; Psalms 32:3-5; 1 John 1:9; Proverbs 3:11-12

How do we fix the worries, wounds, and wrongs?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---