

Divine Truths for Daily Living

Proverbs 3

PRACTICAL DISCIPLESHIP

- I. **Based on the FOUNDATION of the WORD OF GOD** v1-2
V1 My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, V2 for they will prolong your life many years and bring you prosperity.
- II. **Held together by the glue of LOVE & FAITHFULNESS**
V3-4 V3 Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. V4 Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man.
- III. **Drive by WHOLEHEARTED FAITH** v5-6 *V5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; V6 in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.*
- IV. **EXPERIENCED IN DAILY LIVING**
 1. **Humility – v7-8** *V7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and shun evil. V8 This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones.*
 2. **Material possessions – v9-10** *V9 Honour the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; V10 then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.*
 3. **Discipline – v11-12** *V11 My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline and do not resent his rebuke, V12 because the LORD disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in.*
 4. **Discernment – v21-24** *V21 My son, preserve sound judgment and discernment, do not let them out of your sight; V22 they will be life for you, an ornament to grace your neck. V23 Then you will go on your way in safety, and your foot will not stumble; V24 when you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet.*

5. **Disaster – v25-26** *V25 Have no fear of sudden disaster or of the ruin that overtakes the wicked, V26 for the LORD will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being snared.*
6. **Social Care – v27-28** *V27 Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act. V28 Do not say to your neighbour, "Come back later; I'll give it tomorrow"--when you now have it with you.*
7. **Good Neighbour – v29-30** *V29 Do not plot harm against your neighbour, who lives trustfully near you. V30 Do not accuse a man for no reason-- when he has done you no harm*
8. **Peaceful living – v31-35** *V31 Do not envy a violent man or choose any of his ways, V32 for the LORD detests a perverse man but takes the upright into his confidence. V33 The LORD's curse is on the house of the wicked, but he blesses the home of the righteous. V34 He mocks proud mockers but gives grace to the humble. V35 The wise inherit honour, but fools he holds up to shame*

Conclusion

What's the KEY to the disciplined life?

In Gen 2:15-3:24 humanity sought to find meaning in the "tree of life."

The KEY is found in the "TREE OF LIFE" v18

*V13 **Blessed is the man who finds wisdom**, the man who gains understanding, V14 for she is more profitable than silver and yields better returns than gold. V15 She is more precious than rubies; nothing you desire can compare with her. V16 Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honor. V17 Her ways are pleasant ways, and all her paths are peace. V18 **She is a tree of life** to those who embrace her; those who lay hold of her will be blessed. V19 **By wisdom the LORD laid the earth's foundations**, by understanding he set the heavens in place; V20 by his knowledge the deeps were divided, and the clouds let drop the dew.*

CHRIST IS THE "TREE OF LIFE" Rev 22:13-14

*v13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. v14 "Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have **the right to the tree of life** and may go through the gates into the city.*