

"The Paths of Righteousness"
Proverbs 3:1-12

*"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction." (Proverbs 1:7).
"For wisdom will come into your heart, and **knowledge will be pleasant to your soul.**" (Proverbs 2:10).
"Leave your simple ways, and live, and **walk in the way of insight.**" (Proverbs 9:6). "Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom."
(James 3:13)*

When we reject "leaning on our own understanding," we are admitting: I am limited, I am finite, sometimes I am wrong, I can't see the big picture, and that I desperately need help. (Proverbs 26:12)

- "Let your heart" (Proverbs 3:1-3) — This is an expression of loving devotion to the will of God.
 - "For Ezra had **set his heart to study** the Law of the LORD, and **to do it and to teach His statutes and rules in Israel.**" (Ezra 7:10)
 - "Jesus answered him, **'If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word,** and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.'" (John 14:23)
- "Trust in the LORD" (Proverbs 3:5-8) — *Parallelism.*
 - "Trust in the LORD" corresponds with "be not wise in your own eyes."
 - "Do not lean on your own understanding" corresponds with "fear the LORD, and turn away from evil."
 - "He will make straight your paths" corresponds with the statement "and refreshment to your bones."
 - "Toward the scornful He is scornful, but to the humble He gives favor." (Proverbs 3:34).
"God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." (James 4:6)
 - "A tranquil heart gives life to the flesh, but envy makes the bones rot." (Proverbs 14:30)
- "Honor the LORD" (Proverbs 3:9-10)
 - We should honor the Lord in how **we make** money, how **we give** money, and how **we spend** money. It is all His.
 - Honoring the Lord means not honoring ourselves.
 - Generosity towards God is an act from the heart that honors God as the One who gives and the One who can be trusted.
 - Giving prepares us for sacrifice, contentment, consistent obedience, and a life of discipline.
- "Do not despise the LORD" (Proverbs 3:11-12)
 - God's discipline is always to make us wiser and stronger in Him.
 - God's discipline is always done in love and to conform us into the image of Christ (Romans 8:29).
 - "For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it." (Hebrews 12:11)

Announcements:

★**CHURCH GAME NIGHT:** Our Monthly Church Game Night is THIS Sunday, November 9th, at Andy's house (1062 National Road SE; Hebron), starting at 5pm. Please bring your favorite board and/or card games to play, and please bring a food item to share with everyone!

★*For all other announcements, please see the November Newsletter!*