

Sermon Notes

A Closer Look – Your Favorite Verses Explored

August 24-25th, 2019

Remember, small groups are primarily for growing closer relationships with other believers. We can learn wonderful things in this environment but keep relationships first.

- **A Closer Look: Favorite Verses Explored**
- We are looking at the most quoted verses in the Bible. Are they taken out of context, do they present only part of the truth, or do they really mean what we think they mean?? That is the question!
- This week **Proverbs 3:5-6**.
 - o This is a good one. Only problem is application!
- 4 Parts to this: Trust, Lean, Acknowledge, Direction.
 - o First 3 are angles on faith. Last one is the promise we can have.
- 1) Trust in the Lord with all your heart.
 - o Who do you trust? Your doctor, a teacher, parent, boss, spouse, employee, friend, money, talent?
 - o Do you trust the Lord? Or, are you unsure if God will come through?
 - With all your heart? Or, just with some of your heart?
 - o Have you ever had a situation where someone should have trusted you but they didn't?
 - Is the Lord trustworthy? If you don't trust Him where is the breakdown? (probably involves bad people or false expectations)
 - o The fruit of trusting God is peace. **Philippians 4:6-7**
- 2) And lean not on your own understanding.
 - o This is big! What do you do when you disagree with GOD?? Oddly, most just ignore God.
 - o God is smarter than us and has a better perspective on things!! Agree??
 - What if you could have the best financial adviser in the world? Would you blow them off?
 - o Apply to **Matthew 6:33, Malachi 3:10, Ephesians 5:3-4**.
 - Biblical morality. Healthy, unhealthy, evil.
 - o It doesn't say "have not" your own understanding!! That is actually very dangerous.
 - I want to explore and grow my understanding! Yet trusting and understanding are different.
 - o Which way do you lean?? Lean on the directives of the Lord.
- 3) In all your ways acknowledge him.
 - o Not in "some" of your ways. Avoid compartment syndrome.
 - Baptism wallet joke.
 - o All your ways, including: relationships, finances, friends, thought life, business, leisure, church, etc.
 - "I know it's not very Christian, but..." is disregarding the Lord in that area of your life.
 - **James 2:8-11**. The chain is only as strong as the weakest link. Apply to "all your ways."
 - **Mark 12:30**. Love the Lord in all 4 of these ways, not just one.
- 4) The Promise: God will direct your paths!
 - o If you do all three of these things, then you can believe for the promise!
 - But if you don't do these, then don't blame God for your life situation!
 - o What is the opposite of "straight paths?" How about going in a circle...
 - Being forgiven doesn't give you a straight path. You must follow Jesus.
 - o Closing verse: **Proverbs 3:6-7**.
 - Which of these do you need to grow in? Let's ask the Lord for some help.
- Pray for each other before you finish up!