

“The Key to a Life of Knowing God”

- 1 My son, do not forget my law,
But let your heart keep my commands;
- 2 For length of days and long life
And peace they will add to you.
- 3 Let not mercy and truth forsake you;
Bind them around your neck,
Write them on the tablet of your heart,
- 4 *And* so find favor and high esteem
In the sight of God and man.
- 5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart,
And lean not on your own understanding;
- 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him,
And He shall direct your paths.
- 7 Do not be wise in your own eyes;
Fear the LORD and depart from evil.
- 8 It will be health to your flesh,
And strength to your bones.

Pastor teaches his family a selection from “the Proverb of the day.” In these eight verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us that living by God’s Word is more than memorization or even obedience; it is a life lived by knowing God.

(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via hopewellarp.org)

Proverbs 3 verses 1-8. These are God's words. My son, do not forget my law. But let your heart keep my commands. For length of days and long life and peace. They will add to you. But not mercy and Truth, forsake.

You bind them around your neck. Write them on the tablet of your heart. And so find favor and high esteem. And the sight of God and man. Trust in Yahweh, with all your heart. And lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He Shall direct your paths.

Not be wise in your own eyes. And depart from Evil. It will be Health to your flesh. And strength to your bones. So far the reading of gods inspired and inerrant word. Is very important for. Someone who hopes to be a dad and hopes to be a mom. Or hopes to be one of the two.

You shouldn't have to be both. That would be very bad. But it's very important for someone who hopes to be a father or a mother. Uh, which all of you should hope to be. Since marriage is honorable, Uh, that's given for the purpose of producing a Godly offspring. Uh, if Gordon his Providence, prevents you He is good and we receive from his hand, all of his good Providence.

But you should desire it and you should prepare for it and pursue it. One of the most important things for preparing for it and pursuing it. Is learning his word. And living, according to his word. So that when you instruct your children, you will instruct them from the Bible.

You will not simply tell them. How to? Get along with others and Um, You have a successful non-embarrassing life. You will tell them. About their creator. And you will tell them about his character. And you will tell them his law. Which are the implications of his character, the difference that his character makes.

In how we are supposed to live. And you will teach them. That learning his word and living, according to his word, as part of knowing him belonging to him. Having a relationship with him. All of these things we see. In this short passage first. My son do not forget my law but let your heart keep my commands.

For length of days and long life and peace. They will add to you. Now, where did he get that idea? I wanted to ask Sophia but she Going to the restroom. She was telling me earlier. That she wants to honor her father and her mother, so that her days may be long in the land that the Lord God giveth her.

That's where verse 2. Gets the idea, isn't it? That we tell our children. This is how. To have a long and happy life. Now, if the Lord takes them in the flower of their youth, Their life will have been exactly as long as necessary and they will not be sad.

As they belong to him to leave, in fact they will be much happier. Much sooner. But length of days and long life and peace. In this world serving the lord, which we should desire. Uh, to stay to do. Even the Apostle who said it was better by far to depart.

Thought that since it was more needful for the church since he had more useful service left to do that, he would remain. Let not mercy and Truth. Forsake you Let not steadfast love and faithfulness that which the Lord declares about himself. To declares himself to be full of in Exodus 34.

When he's passing by Moses that which Jesus is declared to be full of when John says, When the word became flashy the eldest Glory, they beheld, his glory, as of the only begotten of the father. And so when he says, And so when he says let not Murphy mercy and Truth, forsake you he's saying God gives you his word and the keeping of his word as a means by which he shows you Covenant love and And shows.

You Covenant faithfulness gives you his Covenant love and and faithfulness. So what should we do? We should consider God's word to be. Um, our most sacred possession are most treasured possession and binded around our neck. Like a Or a bottle of something, very precious that you would never let.

Out of your site or off of your person. Write them on the tablet of your heart. Um, that which controls how we think and feel and Uh, or all of our desires and

choices. And so find favor and highest team. Not just in the sight of man, but even in the sight of God, Indeed doesn't Luke.

Tell us this about the Lord Jesus. That he grew in wisdom and stature and favor with God. And with men, What is Luke telling us there? He's telling us, especially That the the boy Jesus as he grew. He grew in knowing and keeping and treasuring and obeying. The Bible.

He didn't forget God's law. But he let his heart, keep his commands. Back to verse 1 for a moment. You know, not forgetting the Bible does not mean. Um, Does not just mean, being able to recollect words and phrases and teachings and stories. It means verse second part of verse one.

Keeping his commands from the heart. If we mastered all of the information in the Bible, And we're able to win the National Bible B. And yet we're not keeping it. According to the definition of verse one, we would be forgetters Of the law of God. Remember what Jesus said?

The one who hears his words and does them. There's like the one who builds the house upon the rock. The one who hears his words and does not do them. Is like the one who builds the house upon the sand. Notice that they both have the same information. They may even have the same memorization.

The difference between the two. Is in one case. God's word is written on the tablet of the heart. To be kept. And in the other case, it's just stored in the memory banks. So, trust in Yahweh with all your heart, what does that mean? Does that mean to really really really believe really hard that the Lord is good.

Well, we should really, really believe that the Lord is good, but the second half of the verse tells us A little more information about it and lean not on your own understanding. So trusting in Yahweh with all your heart means, sometimes when something feels right? But the Bible says, it's not, you do what the Bible says is right?

And you don't do What feels right to you and you certainly don't decide whether or not you like teachings or doctrines, By how they make you feel rejecting. The ones that rub you the wrong way and so forth. No. Lean not on your own understanding. Because God's word is God's communication of himself.

Verse six would be better translated in all your ways, know him. And he shall direct your paths. Do you see what a treasure is given to you in the Bible? It's not just an instruction manual information. Manual It is a means by which God gives you to live in relationship with him.

That you would be knowing him in everything you do suddenly. The things that you do and the decisions that you make are not even so important, you might go on to do great things. And yes, this will, you know, living this way according to God's word he will make wise and good decisions.

Praise God. But greater than all of those things, is that you will know the Living God. The opposite then. As being wise, in your own eyes. So do not be wise in your own eyes, fear, Yahweh. And depart from Evil. Now, that's a big rebuke to To us, when we are unteachable unpersuadable.

We are wise in our own eyes. We can't be convinced from the Bible about something. The Bible tells us, this verse tells us verse 7 tells us, That when we were, when we are unpersuadable by scripture, That we are not actually fearing Yahweh. And if you can't be, Persuaded or have your heart or mind changed by the Bible.

Then you will eventually call things that are evil. Good. And you will run head long into them. Rather than departing from them. And so it's very wicked and it's very dangerous. To be wise in our own eyes. But the Lord is good. Not only has he created us in this world designed it all but he is the one who is constantly upholding it and acting in it.

And therefore, When we fear Him and depart from Evil, It is Health to our flesh and strength to our bones. Even. When outwardly we start wasting away. And our flesh starts to fail. And our bones grow old and painful and weary We have some friends. Don't we in the church?

His physical flesh, and Bones are growing old, and painful. And yet, don't we see? That they're inwardly renewed, day by day. That especially when they're in the courts of the Lord's house. It's like they're full of sap and green again, that God is renewing, their souls. That's the real health and that's the real strength.

It doesn't come at the gym and lifting weights. It comes with having a body. That is consecrated by God's word. So my dear children. May the Lord give us to treasure his word. And not just to remember it certainly to do, so. But to live by it. So that all of our living so that all of your living Moment by moment every day.

Will be unknowing. Of the Lord and a trusting. Of the Lord being directed by him. And preserved, and blessed, and made by him to flourish. God, granted us that it would be. So let's pray. We thank you, Father for Being Our Father in heaven and forgiving us the words.

That we desire to have in our mouth for our children. So that we can urge them. That if they would follow these words, They would find in them. The blessing of knowing you are God. And growing in favor with you, please Lord. Help me. Help Mom. To have your word in our heart.

So that it will also be on our lips. Not only in these. Lying down and rising up times of Family worship but all day long as we go out and we come in, Give us to speak with our children from your word. That our whole life together may be knowing of you.

Grant your spirits. Ministry to each one individually. That each one's on life will be. A Moment by moment day by day, knowing of you. How we thank you for. This extraordinary gift to us. Above all the rest of your creatures. Grant that we would receive it and know it.

And rejoice over and worship you for it. For, we ask it in Jesus name. Amen.