

## A Tenacious Trust

**TEXT:** Proverbs 3:5-8

### **INTRODUCTION:**

- “We must learn how to repent of the sin... of seeking to be our own Savior and Lord. We must admit that we’ve put our ultimate hope and trust in things other than God, and that in both our wrongdoing and right doing we have been seeking to get around God or get control of God in order to get hold of those things.” [Timothy Keller, *The Prodigal God*, p. 78]
- The ONE THING: *Life will become an adventure when we trust God with our future*

### **I. We must be hopeful in God**

**READ vv. 5-6**

- **We notice 2 things about being hopeful in God:**

#### **1) *Be dependent on God***

- According to the **Merriam-Webster Dictionary**, the word, “*trust*” is defined as:
  - a) *Assured reliance on the character, ability, strength, or truth of someone or something*
  - b) *One in which confidence is placed*
  - c) *Dependence on something future or contingent*
- **Romans 8:28 (MSG)**, “That’s why we can be so sure that every detail in our lives of love for God is worked into something good”
- **Isaiah 55:8-9 (MSG)**, “8 I don’t think the way you think. The way you work isn’t the way I work.” GOD’s Decree. 9 For as the sky soars high above earth, so the way I work surpasses the way you work, and the way I think is beyond the way you think.”

#### **2) *Be directed by God***

- **In v. 6**, the word, “*acknowledge*” is understood as, “*Seek his will in all you do*” [NLT]
- **Psalms 37:5 (ESV)**, “Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act.”
  - **MSG**, “Open up before GOD, keep nothing back; he’ll do whatever needs to be done”

### **II. We must be humble before God**

**READ vv. 7-8**

- The writer of Proverbs clearly states the importance of humility by using the phrase, “*be not wise in your own eyes*”
  - NLT, “Don’t be impressed with your own wisdom”
  - MSG, “Don’t assume that you know it all.”
  
- “The deep fear behind every loss is that we have been abandoned by the God who should have saved us. The transforming moment in Christian conversion comes when we realize that even God has left us. We then discover it was not God, but our image of God that abandoned us.... Only then is change possible.” [M. Craig Barnes, *When God Interrupts*, p. 123]
  
- **Proverbs 1:7 (NLT)**, “Fear of the LORD is the foundation of true knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.”
  
- **We see in v. 8** that there will be healing to our flesh and refreshment to our bones
  - NIV, “This will bring *health to your body* and *nourishment* to your bones.”
  - NLT, “Then you will have healing for your body and *strength* for your bones.”
  
- The **ONE THING**: *Life will become an adventure when we trust God with our future*

**NEXT STEPS:**

- 1) *STAY committed to the process*
- 2) *SPEND time with God*
- 3) *SURROUND yourself with hopeful people*
- 4) *SHARE praises with others*