



SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week of September 13, 2026

Proverbs 3:1-12

[1] My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments, [2] for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you. [3] Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart. [4] So you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man. [5] Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. [6] In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. [7] Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil. [8] It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones. [9] Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; [10] then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine. [11] My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline or be weary of his reproof, [12] for the LORD reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights.

1. In your experience, is life difficult or simple? What do you think is the biggest contributing factor between a difficult life and a simple life?
2. Why would embracing wisdom lead to a long and peaceful life? Practically, how do you embrace wisdom and how would you define a peaceful life?
3. Even in a fallen sin-cursed world, why is virtuous living (characterized by steadfast love and faithfulness) always the better way? Why are justice, honesty, and integrity contrasting virtues to gentleness, forgiveness and graciousness? How can you live according to both?
4. What does it mean to “trust in the Lord with all your heart” and why does this necessarily require an intimate relationship? How do you grow in your relationship with a God you can't physically see?
5. Why do people always want to be right? Why is it so hard for us to admit we don't know? Why can these traits be damaging to our relationships and emotional/spiritual well being? How does the fear of the Lord remedy this?
6. What does it mean to honor God with our wealth? Why is trusting God with our finances so difficult? What does it reveal about our trust and intimacy with the Lord when we find it difficult to honor Him with our wealth?
7. Do you think every bad thing that happens to us in life is a result of God's discipline? How do you know when God is disciplining you? Why is a loving trusting relationship with God absolutely necessary to rightly handle the pain, sorrow and uncertainty of life?