

Sunday, April 25, 2021

Title: Elements to Receiving Guidance

Series: God Still Guides .. 2

Text: Proverbs 3:1 - 8

Purpose: I want to INFORM my congregation of certain elements of FAITH that we need to develop and certain elements we need to suppress in order to receive clearer guidance from the LORD!

1 Timothy 4:13, *“Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching.”*

Introduction:

Review of last Sunday’s devotional:

The Reality of Suffering

1. God Can Use Suffering to REFINE, Hebrews 5:7 - 10
2. God Knows MY WAY, Job 23:1 - 17
3. God Knows MY PURPOSE, Psalm 27
4. God Knows MY FUTURE, Ephesians 2:10

~ “We have to get out of the old pagan way of guiding ourselves by our heads and get into the Christian way of being guided by faith in a personal God, whose methods are a perpetual contradiction to our every preconceived notion.” Oswald Chambers, Disciples Indeed, 388R

~ Proverbs 3:1 – 8

Overview of verses 1 – 8

- Vs. 1 instruction for me to do
- Vs. 2 promise to me for obedience
- Vs. 3 instruction for me to do
- Vs. 4 promise to me for obedience
- Vs. 5 instruction for me to do
- Vs. 6 promise to me for obedience
- Vs. 7 instruction for me to do
- Vs. 8 promise to me for obedience

1. Guidance Denied:

~ Proverbs 3:1, *“My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments,”*

~ Psalm 66:16 – 20, *“Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for my soul. (17) I cried to him with my mouth, and high praise was on my tongue. (18) If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. (19) But truly God has listened; he has attended to the voice of my prayer. (20) Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love for me!”*

~ John 9:31, *“We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him.”*

~ James 4:3, *“You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.”*

~ 1 John 1:7 – 10, *“But if we walk in the light, as he is in light, we have fellowship with one another and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. (8) If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. (9) If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (10) If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.”*

Key element to receiving guidance from the Lord is a soul open to correction and responding with true repentance.

2. Guidance to the TRULY SINCERE:

~ Proverbs 3:3, *“Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart.”*

~ Jeremiah 29:13, *“You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.”*

~ Psalm 27:4 & 8, *“One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in, the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.” (8) “You have said, “Seek my face.” My heart says to you, “Your face, LORD, do I seek.”*

~ Psalm 63:1, *“O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.”*

~ Hebrews 11:6, *“And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.”*

3. Guidance to Those Who OBEY:

~ Proverbs 3:6, *“In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.”*

~ Psalm 119:105, *“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”*

~ Matthew 7:24, *“Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock.”*

~ Isaiah 28:10, *“For it is precept upon precept, precept upon precept, line upon line, line upon line, here a little, there a little.”*

4. Guidance to Those of UNWAVERING FAITH:

~ James 1:5 – 8, *“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. (6) But let him ask in faith, without doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. (7) For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; (8) he is double-minded, unstable in all his ways.”*

~ Read Jeremiah 42:1 - 22

Conclusion:

Closing Hymn: Trust and Obey