

RUSSELL SANDERS  
10-15-2021  
PROVERBS 3:5-6

It was May of 1965. I was about to graduate High School June 6<sup>th</sup>. Something happened that I shall never forget.

My mother, Thelma, carried an early morning paper route for the Tampa Tribune. Once a month she would collect from her customers. This allowed her to get acquainted and occasionally converse with them. She was proudly telling some of the upcoming graduation of her eldest son.

One day my mother brought home a nice congratulatory card for me. As I opened it, I saw something handwritten inside from this lady I never met. She had written the Bible passage from Proverbs 3:5-6. It said, ***“Trust in the LORD with all thine heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths.”***

That meant so much to this seventeen-year-old boy that I immediately determined to memorize it and make it the compass for my life. It remains my favorite scripture to this very day.

Most people read it but have difficulty living by it. They feel they must figure everything out for themselves. From the beginning of a thing, they wish to know the starting point of it, then each step, step by step to a determined end. They must figure out everything ahead of time.

That is exact opposite of what this scripture says. Many wish always to “see the end from the beginning.” While it is good to have a plan, we often get ahead of it in trying to make it happen before its time. When we see a direction that we may be going, it is good to have a basic plan. When we begin to obsess over details before it comes full circle, we are trying to take it out of God’s covering and take it into our own hands.

We can follow a basic plan which we have reasoned out, but we must trust God to see it through to completion. Trusting our “own understanding” can lead to a lot of wasted time and effort. It could even result in mistakes being made. It can become frustrating, tiring, and wear us out.

Trust God to work it out. He can bring you a better outcome than you even imagined.