

# SERMON

SEEKING GODS GUIDANCE  
FOR THE NEXT STEP

## Trusting God's Plan (Proverbs 3:5-6)

**Introduction:** Good morning, church! Today, we'll be reflecting on the well-known passage from Proverbs 3:5-6, which tells us, "*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight.*"

We often read these verses and feel encouraged by their simple, direct call to trust God. But the truth is, while these words may be easy to read, they can be much harder to live out—especially when life becomes uncertain or doesn't go as planned. Today, I want to share my personal experience of how Proverbs 3:5-6 became an anchor for me during a time of transition and uncertainty.

**1. Trusting God in Transition:** After I completed a significant season of ministry, I expected to know immediately what was next. Like many of us, I wanted clear answers, a mapped-out plan for my life. But instead, I found myself in a place of uncertainty—something I hadn't anticipated. Have any of you ever been in that place? You finish one chapter of your life, and you think the next will naturally unfold. But instead, there's silence. No clear direction. Just waiting.

During that time, I felt challenged in a way I had never been before. I had to trust God more deeply than I ever had, and let me tell you, it wasn't easy. Some days, fear and doubt crept in. I questioned whether I was even on the right path. But every time I turned to God in prayer, He reminded me of His faithfulness. The verse in Proverbs became more than just words on a page—it became my lifeline: "*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.*"

You see, trusting God doesn't mean we have all the answers. It means letting go of our need for control and relying on the One who already knows the way. It's about giving up our own understanding — what we think should happen — and allowing God to lead us in His perfect timing.

**2. Releasing Control and Letting God Lead:** There's such comfort in knowing that God already has a plan, even when we can't see the full picture. I think back to that season of waiting, when I so desperately wanted to figure things out on my own. My human nature craved control. But I realized something important: God wasn't surprised by my uncertainty. He knew exactly where He was leading me, even though I couldn't see it yet.

I had to learn to release control and trust that He would guide me in His timing. And that's what I want to encourage you with today: God is not surprised by your transitions or your uncertainties. Whether you're facing a career change, a shift in family dynamics, or a new season in ministry, God is already ahead of you, preparing the way. Our job is to trust, submit, and follow.

**3. Resting in God's Timing:** This brings us to another key aspect of trusting God—resting in His timing. Ecclesiastes 3:1 says, *“There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.”* Sometimes, when we are in a season of waiting, it's tempting to rush ahead of God because we feel anxious about the future. But when we trust in the Lord, we also have to trust that His timing is perfect.

When I was in that season of waiting, I initially felt frustrated. I didn't understand why things weren't moving as quickly as I wanted. But over time, I realized that this waiting wasn't wasted—it

was a time of preparation. Sometimes, God calls us to slow down, to rest, and to allow Him to prepare us for what's next.

Are you in a season where things aren't moving as fast as you'd like? Don't rush the process. God's timing is perfect, and He knows when the time is right. Trust that He is working behind the scenes, preparing you for the next step.

**4. Seeking God's Voice:** Jeremiah 29:13 tells us, "*You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.*" One of the most powerful ways to navigate uncertainty and transition is to intentionally seek God's voice. During my time of waiting, I learned that seeking God wasn't just about asking for direction—it was about aligning my heart with His.

Sometimes, when we pray for direction, we come to God with a lot of noise in our hearts—our own plans, our own desires. But to hear God clearly, we need to make space for Him. I found that as I spent more time in prayer, in quiet, and in Scripture, I began to hear God's voice more clearly. His peace started to guide me, and I realized that even though I didn't have all the answers, I was being led by the One who did.

If you're seeking God's direction today, I encourage you to create space for Him. It may require silence, fasting, or simply being still in His presence. But God promises that when we seek Him with all our hearts, we will find Him.

**5. Walking in Faith:** As you seek God's voice and receive His guidance, you may not see the full picture right away. That's where faith comes in. 2 Corinthians 5:7 reminds us, "*For we live by faith, not by sight.*" Even when God gives us direction, we don't always see every step laid out before us. Walking by faith means trusting God with each step, even if the path isn't fully clear.

When I was finally ready to move forward, I didn't have all the details worked out. But I learned that walking by faith isn't about having certainty—it's about trusting the One who is certain. God asks us to take the next step, even if we can't see what's ahead. And when we take that step in faith, we find that God is already there, making our paths straight.

**6. Letting Go of Fear:** Finally, as you step into the unknown, don't let fear hold you back. 2 Timothy 1:7 reminds us, "*For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and self-discipline.*" Fear is one of the biggest obstacles to trusting God's plan, but we don't have to let it control us. God has already equipped us with everything we need to step forward in faith—His power, His love, and His wisdom.

If fear is holding you back today, I encourage you to release it to God. Trust that He is with you, that He has already prepared the way, and that He will give you the strength you need to move forward.

**Conclusion:** As I reflect on Proverbs 3:5-6, I'm reminded again of how often I've tried to figure things out on my own. But through the uncertainty, God has taught me that true peace comes when we trust Him fully—when we lean not on our own understanding, but on His.

If there's any area of your life where you're struggling to trust God—whether it's in your career, your relationships, or your calling—I encourage you to submit it to Him today. Let go of the need to understand everything and instead lean into His wisdom, which is far greater than our own. God is faithful to lead us where we need to go, and when we trust Him with all our hearts, He promises to make our paths straight.

Let us pray: *Father, we thank You for Your faithfulness. Help us to trust You fully in every season of our lives. Lead us, guide us, and give us the courage to walk by faith and not by sight. May we release our fears and lean on Your wisdom, knowing that You have already prepared the way ahead. In Jesus' name, Amen.*