



## Today's Message

Date: December 14, 2014  
Speaker: Pastor Steven Thomas  
Title: *Trust, Fear, and Honor the LORD*

Text: Proverbs 3:1–12 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup> My son, do not forget my teaching,  
but let your heart keep my commandments,  
<sup>2</sup> for length of days and years of life  
and peace they will add to you.

<sup>3</sup> Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you;  
bind them around your neck;  
write them on the tablet of your heart.  
<sup>4</sup> So you will find favor and good success  
in the sight of God and man.

<sup>5</sup> Trust in the LORD with all your heart,  
and do not lean on your own understanding.  
<sup>6</sup> In all your ways acknowledge him,  
and he will make straight your paths.

<sup>7</sup> Be not wise in your own eyes;  
fear the LORD, and turn away from evil.  
<sup>8</sup> It will be healing to your flesh  
and refreshment to your bones.

<sup>9</sup> Honor the LORD with your wealth  
and with the firstfruits of all your produce;  
<sup>10</sup> then your barns will be filled with plenty,  
and your vats will be bursting with wine.

- <sup>11</sup> My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline  
or be weary of his reproof,  
<sup>12</sup> for the LORD reproves him whom he loves,  
as a father the son in whom he delights.

Introduction: Solomon continues to instruct his son in hopes that he will choose the path of wisdom. This passage begins with the father's appeal (1-4), followed by his instruction (5-10). It concludes with a warning against resisting discipline (11-12). The point of the passage is basic and vital to the life.

**Today's take-home truth: Well-being only comes to those who live in right relation to the LORD.**

- I. A godly father's appeal: Don't waste the advantages my teaching offers you. 1-4**
  - A. My teaching gives life and peace if you obey it. 1-2
  - B. My teaching produces right relationships with God and man if you hold on to it. 3-4
  
- II. His instruction: Live for the LORD, not for yourself—that is the path to true well-being. 5-10**
  - A. Trust the LORD and he will guide you. 5-6
  - B. Fear the LORD and he will "heal" you. 7-8
  - C. Honor the LORD and he will bless you. 9-10
  
- III. A warning: You will fail, but the LORD will help you. 11-12**
  - A. Value the LORD's discipline . . . 11
  - B. As a sign of his love. 12