

Scripture Passage: Proverbs 3:1-6

Memory Verse: Proverbs 3:5

Theme Song: With All Your Heart

Big Idea: We can trust God because his promises are always true.

READ

Read Proverbs 3:1-6 aloud to your family. If your kids can read, consider having one of them read or letting them take turns reading.

Proverbs 3:1-6

- ¹ My son, do not forget my teaching,
but keep my commands in your heart,
- ² for they will prolong your life many years
and bring you peace and prosperity.
- ³ Let love and faithfulness never leave you;
bind them around your neck,
write them on the tablet of your heart.
- ⁴ Then you will win favor and a good name
in the sight of God and man.
- ⁵ Trust in the Lord with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding;
- ⁶ in all your ways submit to him,
and he will make your paths straight.

SING

Play “With All Your Heart” from the *Doorpost Songs: This Is Love* album and sing together. If you have small children, find a toy instrument and let them bang away! If needed, print copies of the lyric sheet for your family.

MEMORIZE

Pick a section of the verses to memorize as a family. Use the suggestions below or choose your own. Use the long version for older children and the short version for preschoolers.

Long Version (Proverbs 3:5)

Trust in the Lord with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding.

Short Version (Proverbs 3:5)

Trust in the Lord with all your heart.

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LEARN

Read the Big Idea and short devotional aloud to your family. If you have time, use the discussion questions at the end of the devotional.

What's the Big Idea?

We can trust God because his promises are always true.

Family Devotional

Trust is a funny thing.

There are many things we trust that we never think about. For example, I bet you didn't think to yourself, "I wonder if this chair will hold me up," when you sat down. You simply sat on the chair. You trusted the chair to do its job and support your weight. I'm guessing you probably trust gravity. I doubt you've ever thought, "I better not jump up. I might never come down and just float into space!" You trust that gravity will do its job and bring you back to the ground every time.

But other times we have to make tough decisions about trust. You can see this when young children encounter a new obstacle on the playground. You can almost hear them thinking, "Can I climb that? Can I hang on?" They have to decide if they trust themselves.

But as children grow older they grow out of that stage. Most of the time you don't even think before you start climbing or hanging or sliding, do you? Why is that? It's because you have enough experience on the playground to know that he really can trust yourself. You know what you can do.

Trusting in God is a bit harder than climbing on a playground. The things we have to trust God for are bigger and closer to our hearts. Can I trust God to provide for my family? Can I trust God to help me find a friend? Can I trust God to help me be brave when life is hard? These are big questions.

But just like a child on the playground, experience helps us to believe that we can trust God. That's why the Bible is so important. It's the story of everything that God has done. And once we know what God can do, it makes it easier to trust him with our whole hearts.

And here's the best part: God promises that when we trust him he will give us peace and blessing and make the pathway of our lives smooth and easy to walk. And do you know what the Bible says about God's promises? "Every promise has been fulfilled; not one has failed." (Josh. 23:14) And that means we can truly trust him. We can trust him with our whole hearts.

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TALK

Talk about what you have learned as a family. Use the questions below or ask some of your own.

1. What are some things that you trust? Who are some people that you trust? Why do you trust them?
2. How has God shown us that we can trust him? What things has he done that prove he is trustworthy?
3. Can you think of some of God's promises? What is the promise in the Bible verses we read today?

PRAY

Pray together. Here are some ideas:

- Thank God that his promises never fail.
- Thank God for some of the specific ways he has been faithful to your family.
- Ask God to help you and your family to trust him with all your hearts.