

A Verse to Remember 3

This is totally your study. Nobody will be instructing you and nobody will be grading you. It will just be you, your Bible, these lessons, your own paper, and of course, the Holy Spirit guiding and teaching you.

VERSE	Proverbs 3:5-6
TEXT - NKJV	<i>Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.</i>

BOOK	The Book of Proverbs
PURPOSE OF BOOK	To give a course of instruction in wisdom and to prepare mankind for the ways of life God has planned & intends for us.

CHAPTER	3
THEME OF CHAPTER	Chapter 3 is in the section that covers proverbs (guidance for life) that a father might give to his child.

Let's outline the book of Proverbs this way:

*The **Purpose** of the Book of Proverbs (Proverbs 1:1-8)*

*Proverbs that could be directed to younger people (**youth**) (Proverbs 1:9 - 9:18)*

*The **Proverbs of Solomon** – Part 1 (Collected by Solomon himself) Prov. 10:1–24:34)*

*The **Proverbs of Solomon** – Part 2 (Collected by Hezekiah's staff) (Prov. 25:1– 29:27)*

*The instructions of **Agur & Lemuel** (Possible contemporaries of Solomon) (Proverbs 30-31)*

What two words begin Proverbs 3:1? _____

What other verses in chapter 3 start this way? _____

It appears that this section of verses could be talking to youth, but there are these same words in verses scattered across the entire book – so the writers addressed youth in all the sections of the book. That is a study for another day.

What instructions were given (just in this chapter)?

Proverbs 3:1 = Do not forget _____

Proverbs 3:1 = Let your heart _____

Proverbs 3:3 = Let not mercy & truth _____

Proverbs 3:3 = Bind mercy & truth _____

Proverbs 3:3 = Write mercy & truth _____

Proverbs 3:5 = Truth in the Lord _____

Proverbs 3:5 = Lean not _____

Proverbs 3:6 = In all your ways _____

Proverbs 3:7 = Do not be wise _____

Proverbs 3:7 = Fear _____ and depart _____

The instructions go on in the following verses but we will stop here for now.

What do we trust? (Proverbs 3:5) _____

What do we not trust? (Proverbs 3:5) _____

Is there a difference between "trust" and "lean"? I say, "No". They have basically the same meaning. Isn't leaning on something sturdy a comforting thing? Remember having to stand in a line for a long time, and then getting to lean against something if no chair was available?

We want to lean on things. It's almost relaxing for a while. Can't you almost hear God say, "Go ahead – lean on me. I won't let you fall." In fact, leaning is like resting while you are standing.

What do you think "ways" means in Proverbs 3:6? _____

What do you think "paths" means in Proverbs 3:6) _____

Are the meanings the same? Again, I think not. "Ways" describes what we do each day to live, making decisions big or small, getting where you need to go; all the regular stuff. "Paths" describes our "ways" after we recognize (acknowledge) that God is in control of our "ways" and wants to turn those "ways" into "paths" on which He can guide us & prosper us.

Even tough times come on God's path for us, but that path will get us to where God intends us to go anyway. I am glad for that!!