

## PERSONAL APPLICATION

- What are the areas of your life where you doubt God most? What have you learned about trust today?
- Which part of this lesson made the most sense to you? How has it impacted your faith in God?
- How will you display and exercise the Lord's love and faithfulness on a daily basis?
- Have you fully surrendered everything to God? If not, are you willing to surrender?

## PRAYER

- Seek God's presence and bask in his goodness and grace.
- Ask for a heart that fully relies on and trust in God.
- Pray that you may apply God's word in your life and that people will come to know him through you.

## NOTES

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# THE ART OF LIVING series



## WEEK 2: BLESSED LIFE

## CONNECT

- Do you trust God with every aspect of your life? Are there times where you still doubt God?
- Does your life and/or current situation reflect an awesome, loving, and powerful God? Explain your answer.
- How much of God's word do you keep in your heart and apply to your life?

## WHAT

In the Bible, when a person and/or nation is blessed, it is shown that God has bestowed grace, love, and favor upon them. We have seen it over and over in the lives of men and women in the Bible such as Abraham, Moses, Noah, Esther, and Ruth. And there are many others that God has blessed and commended because their lives were a showcase of faith and trust. Let us take a look in Proverbs and see what Solomon said about how we too can live a blessed life.

WORD

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

**1. A life full of years, peace, and prosperity.**

*“My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, for they will prolong your life many years and bring you peace and prosperity.”*

Proverbs 3:1, 2

God’s teachings and commands should not only be head knowledge. When we live in communion with God, his teachings and commands will not only be rules but hopefully, they will sink deep into our hearts and will become godly convictions. When we stand by his word in obedience, he will not only reward us with many years but his peace and prosperity will also reign in our lives.

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**2. A life full of favor from God and man.**

*“Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man.”*

Proverbs 3:3, 4

The word love used in this verse describes a faithful and steadfast covenantal love. Binding love and faithfulness ‘around your neck’ means keeping them close and ensuring that they will never be forgotten. When we practice loving others faithfully, we demonstrate that an enduring love from God really does exist. Favor from the Creator is the result of our inward surrender and outward obedience to the call of the Lord to touch the lives of others.

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**3. A life full of direction.**

*“Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.”*

Proverbs 3:5, 6

To “trust in the Lord” here originally came from a Hebrew word which means to put all of your weight on him. Trust is an all or nothing deal with God. It’s either we trust him with everything or we don’t trust him at all. Whenever we see the word LORD in capitalized letters in the Bible, it indicates the covenant name of God. We should always put all our trust in God even when we do not understand our circumstances because he doesn’t only give promises but he also has the character to fulfill his word in our lives. The Lord will always be after our best interest and he will always be the God who wants to give us a hope and a future (Jeremiah 29:11).

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