

## **The Rest of the Story**

### **Proverbs 3:1-12**

**Love God** – Begin in silence by reflecting on God’s Wisdom as it is revealed in Creation, in His plan of Salvation, in His Word, in your life. Then, offer aloud prayers of praise for God’s wisdom.

#### **Grow in Grace**

1. Who are some of the wisest people you have met? What made them so wise in your eyes?  
How do you think they gained such wisdom – school, life experience, painful moments...?  
How did they help you with their wisdom?
2. Read Proverbs 1:1-7 This opening chapter reveals the purpose of the book of Proverbs. List some of the benefits this book offers. Which of these are helpful to you? What is the meaning of verse 7?
3. Read Proverbs 3:1-12. These verses contain a series of teachings with a similar format: Follow this instruction and you will receive this result. Can you identify this pattern? How often does it occur in these twelve verses? What do the instructions have in common? Is there any similarity in the results?
4. Read vs. 1-4. What does the author mean when he says, “keep my commands in your heart,” “bind them around your neck, “write them on the tablet of your heart”? How can keeping these instructions “prolong your life many years and bring you prosperity”?
5. Read vs. 5-8 These verses may be viewed as the overall theme of the whole book of Proverbs. What does it mean to “trust in the Lord with all your heart”? What keeps us from completely trusting God with our whole hearts? Why do we lean on our own understand or become “wise in your own eyes”?
6. How can you acknowledge the Lord in all your ways? What causes us to leave His path and take detours and side roads?
7. Read 9-12 The first part of these verses suggest that if we put God first in our finances he will reward us with full barns and wine vats. What do you think of this message of prosperity? The second part suggests that when we go through bad times the Lord is disciplining us and we should accept this with gratitude. How do you handle the ups and downs of life? How do view God’s involvement in these moments?

#### **Share with Others**

1. Consider memorizing Proverbs 3:5-6 and praying that each day.
2. Look through Proverbs and choose some to memorize and share with someone else.
3. End in prayer by asking God to show you where you are holding back part of your heart, where you need help trusting God, where you are choosing your way instead of His will.