

**TELEIOS BIBLE STUDY**  
**FIVE Assurances**  
**Study 5**

**GUIDANCE** Proverbs 3:5-10

The way ahead for the Christian is both spiritual and moral. We want to conform to what the Bible instructs. Rom 12:2 *"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind."* We need guidance to live the Christian life. The world around us is full of temptations. Each decision we make impacts on our relationship with Christ. The Bible assures us of God's guidance so that the believer will not stray or backslide in his faith and daily conduct.

Firstly we have the *promise* of divine guidance. Ps 32:8 *"I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye."* God guided Israel out of Egypt, across the Red Sea, through the Sinai wilderness and into the promise land. God guided the New Testament Church in her expansion program, beginning at Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth. God does not forget the saints in their sojourn through life. Rom 8:28 *"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."*

The *principle* of guidance is also set out for us. Jn 16:13 *"Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth."* Christ promises the disciples of the indwelling and work of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit whom Jesus sends to fill the hearts of the believers, is not a force or an illumination. He is the third person of the Holy Trinity. His presence in the life of the believer is to sensitize his soul to harken to God's Word and to bend his will to the will of God. However we can grieve the Holy Spirit, Eph 4:30, and be disobedient to His instructions. Do not let this happen in your life.

**3 STEPS IN DIVINE GUIDANCE**

**A TRUST IN THE LORD w3,6**

The Christian is to put full confidence in God. He knows our past failures and He sees the future ahead. Most importantly God has a perfect plan for us. We may not always see the way ahead. For a moment we may feel discouraged but we must *"lean not unto thine own understanding"*. We learn the lesson of faith to trust in God explicitly. Jn 11:26 *"And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?"* Death is prelude to resurrection.

The believer is exhorted to acknowledge God, accept His authority and obey His Word. God is to take first and centre place in our life. His glory is our primary goal. He is established as Lord of my life. Col 1:18 *"That in all things he might have the preeminence."* Paul had planned to evangelise Asia but the Holy Spirit directed him westward to Europe. He obeyed when he answered the *"Macedonian call"*. God can close one door and open another. He leads you from your disappointment to His appointment.

**B FEAR THE LORD w7,8**

Successful Christians can sometimes be blinded. They feel wise when in fact they are mistaken. We must always remain humble. When God gives us the success, we must acknowledge His help and seek His guidance for the next step. Our minds are finite. We cannot see two steps ahead. God can see the way ahead and He has everything under His control. In contrite repentance we seek God to make our way plain and to remain humble. Js 4:6 *"God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble."*

The duty of the Christian is to *"fear the LORD, and depart from evil"*. Reverential fear invariably brings us to worship. When we reverence God we seek to respect His Word. When we worship we are silent before God and we hear Him speak to us through the preaching of His Word. Ps 46:10 *"Be still, and know that I am God."* In our busy life we have little time to be quiet with God. We are then in danger of allowing evil to overtake us.

**C HONOUR THE LORD w9,10**

If Jesus is our Saviour and Lord, then He deserves our honour. We heed His Word. We magnify His name. We give honour to whom honour is due. 1 Pet 2:17 *"Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the King."* We honour the Lord by keeping His day, called *"the Lord's Day"* and we can also honour His person by a tribute of praise. Keeping daily quiet time is to remember His name. Our day and week are ordered to honour our relationship with Him.

We honour God by paying our tithes and meeting Him on the Lord's Day with our offerings. We must never come before God empty handed. Mal 3:8 *"Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings."*

**QUESTIONS**

- 1 Share your experience of one difficult decision you have to make. How did God guide you to choose rightly?
- 2 Who is the Holy Spirit? How does the Holy Spirit guide you in your daily life, to walk right before God? (Refer to Jn 16:7-13)
- 3 Have you ever been disappointed with yourself and you got angry with God? How can you be sure of God's guidance through disappointment? (ans Rom 8:28, 29)
- 4 Have you ever allowed success in your life to lead you away from God? How can you bring God back to have sovereignty over your life? (Discuss the Prodigal Son: Lk 15)
- 5 Assurance of guidance comes by getting our priorities right. How does paying our dues to God assure us of God's guidance? (Discuss tithing from Mal 3:8-12)