

## BE A BRINGER

*“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....”* John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

## PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

*“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....”* I Samuel 12:23a

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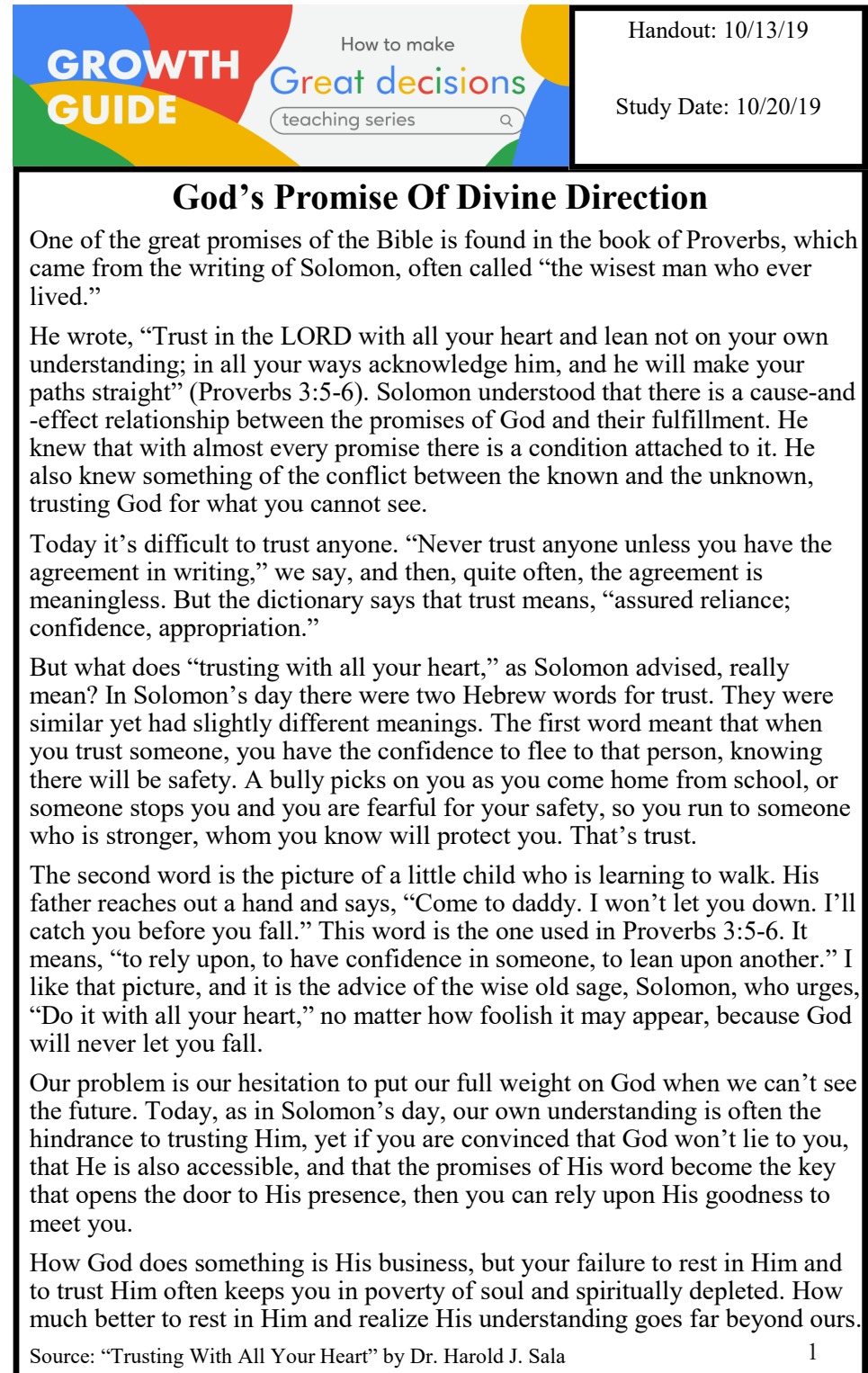
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**GROWTH GUIDE** How to make **Great decisions** teaching series

Handout: 10/13/19  
Study Date: 10/20/19

### God’s Promise Of Divine Direction

One of the great promises of the Bible is found in the book of Proverbs, which came from the writing of Solomon, often called “the wisest man who ever lived.”

He wrote, “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). Solomon understood that there is a cause-and-effect relationship between the promises of God and their fulfillment. He knew that with almost every promise there is a condition attached to it. He also knew something of the conflict between the known and the unknown, trusting God for what you cannot see.

Today it’s difficult to trust anyone. “Never trust anyone unless you have the agreement in writing,” we say, and then, quite often, the agreement is meaningless. But the dictionary says that trust means, “assured reliance; confidence, appropriation.”

But what does “trusting with all your heart,” as Solomon advised, really mean? In Solomon’s day there were two Hebrew words for trust. They were similar yet had slightly different meanings. The first word meant that when you trust someone, you have the confidence to flee to that person, knowing there will be safety. A bully picks on you as you come home from school, or someone stops you and you are fearful for your safety, so you run to someone who is stronger, whom you know will protect you. That’s trust.

The second word is the picture of a little child who is learning to walk. His father reaches out a hand and says, “Come to daddy. I won’t let you down. I’ll catch you before you fall.” This word is the one used in Proverbs 3:5-6. It means, “to rely upon, to have confidence in someone, to lean upon another.” I like that picture, and it is the advice of the wise old sage, Solomon, who urges, “Do it with all your heart,” no matter how foolish it may appear, because God will never let you fall.

Our problem is our hesitation to put our full weight on God when we can’t see the future. Today, as in Solomon’s day, our own understanding is often the hindrance to trusting Him, yet if you are convinced that God won’t lie to you, that He is also accessible, and that the promises of His word become the key that opens the door to His presence, then you can rely upon His goodness to meet you.

How God does something is His business, but your failure to rest in Him and to trust Him often keeps you in poverty of soul and spiritually depleted. How much better to rest in Him and realize His understanding goes far beyond ours.

Source: “Trusting With All Your Heart” by Dr. Harold J. Sala

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## KEY VERSE

Proverbs 3:6 (NKJV)

*In all your ways acknowledge Him,  
And He shall direct your paths.*

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## WEEKLY READINGS

### Monday: Proverbs 3:5-6

#### Introduction

1. What is the best decision you have made so far in 2019? How did you reach that decision?
2. What criteria do you use to evaluate if something is a good or bad decision?

### Tuesday: Proverbs 3:5a; Psalm 37:3-6; Jeremiah 17:7-8

#### Trust In The Lord

3. What does it look like to trust in the Lord with all your heart? Why is this so challenging for us to do?
4. What are some specific areas of your life in which it is easy to trust God? In which is it harder?

### Wednesday: Proverbs 3:5b; Proverbs 28:26; Jeremiah 9:23-24

#### Do Not Rely On Your Own Understanding

5. What does it look like to lean on your own understanding?
6. What are some specific areas of your life where you tend to lean on your own understanding?

### Thursday: Proverbs 3:6a; Philippians 4:6-7; James 1:5

#### Seek God About Everything

7. How often do you seek God when making decisions?
8. What does it look like to seek God about everything?
9. What ways do you seek God? How can you know what He wants you to do?

### Friday: Proverbs 3:6b; Psalm 32:8-11; Psalm 25:8-9

#### Follow His Direction

10. Once you've sought God's will for your decisions, how likely or unlikely are you willing to follow his direction?
11. Has there been a time in your life when you knew what God's direction was for you and you followed your own path instead? Why do we sometimes refuse God's direction for our lives?
12. What are some decisions that you have to make in your life? Would you commit to pray for God's wisdom in these matters?