

“In All Your Ways Acknowledge Him”

Proverbs 3:1-12

Acknowledge God's existence and continual presence

- Begin by **acknowledging His existence** (Hebrews 11:6).
- By acknowledging that “***I am fearfully and wonderfully made***” (Psalms 139:3, 14; Isaiah 45:9-13).
- Failure to acknowledge is the beginning of all apostasy: Romans 1:28.
- We can't be “***the fool***” – Psalms 14:1
- Remembering that He is “***intimately acquainted with all my ways***” Psalms 139:1-10.

Acknowledge by submitting to God's right to rule as our Creator

- We begin by acknowledging that we are created beings and that our life is not our own (Psalms 100:3-4; 119:73-75).
- Acknowledge that He knows best (Jeremiah 10:23; Proverbs 16:25).
- Regarding our plans we take the attitude “***If the Lord wills***” (James 4:15; Proverbs 16:9; Proverbs 3:5, 7).

Acknowledge by submitting to God's right to rule as our Creator

- Acknowledge God's authority (Matthew 21:23-27; 7:21-23).
- Acknowledge by acting in faith. (Philippians 4:13; 1 Samuel 17:37ff; Hebrews 13:5; Romans 8:31)

Acknowledge God by communicating with Him

- First by listening to Him. Matthew 17:5
- Do we not “***acknowledge***” God when we unceasingly come to Him in prayer (1 Thessalonians 5:17)?
- We acknowledge God by not being anxious about life (Philippians 4:6).
- We acknowledge God by believing that we can indeed cast all our anxiety upon Him (1 Peter 5:8).

Acknowledge God by saying “thank you!”

- Recognizing that all that we have, and are, and hope to be comes from Him James 1:17; Ephesians 1:3.
- We need to recognize God for His temporal and eternal spiritual blessings in Christ (Colossians 4:2; 3:15-17; 1 Thessalonians 5:18)

Acknowledge God by giving back

- Proverbs 3:9, “*Honor the Lord from your wealth, and from the first of all your produce.*”
- Cheerfully, ungrudgingly, and free of compulsion (2 Corinthians 9:7) as stewards acknowledging Him as the rightful owner.
- Not only of what we have but who we are (Matthew 25:14ff; Romans 12:1-2; Matthew 5:13-16; 2 Corinthians 12:15; 2 Corinthians 8:1-5).

Acknowledge God through our worship and praise

- “In spirit and truth” (John 4:23-24)
- What is “due to His name”? (Psalms 29:2)
- What is our habit or custom? (Hebrews 10:25)
- Acknowledge God reverently. (Hebrews 12:28; Deuteronomy 10:17; Nehemiah 1:5)

Acknowledge God in our homes and families

- Accept the roles and responsibilities that God has given us. (Ephesians 5:22-33; 6:1-4)
- In our time together and all our conversations. (Deuteronomy 6:1-9)
- How important it is to read together and pray together.

Acknowledge God all the days of your life

- When you’re young(er) (Ecclesiastes 12:1) and when you’re older (Titus 2:2-3).
- “All the days of my life ...” (Psalms 27:4)

“He will make your paths straight ...”

- The Hebrew word for “straight” means: “to lead, direct, to lead straight along” (Brown Driver & Briggs Hebrew Lexicon).
- In Matthew chapter 7, the focus of Jesus’ discussion of the narrow and straight way (verses 13-14) is where it leads us to; that is “*to life.*”
- The point is the success of where those straight paths lead – to eternal life.
- If we walk as Christians acknowledging God then we are promised the “*entrance into the eternal kingdom will be abundantly supplied*” to us (2 Peter 1:11) and we will “be right” with God forever.