



Small Group Sermon Response Questions – Week of 6/29/14

Proverbs 3 – “Know Who You Can Trust”

(God wants His children to be blessed with the true success that only comes through truly trusting Him.)

- 6:30 to 6:45 — Meet & Greet / Conversation
 - 6:45 to 7:30 — Sermon Response Time
 - 7:30... — Smaller Groups for Accountability and Prayer

1. Do you see how the central theme above rings true with the passage and with all of scripture? What causes you to doubt whether God really wants you to know this success—an absence of brokenness and abundance of good works?
2. Discuss the sermon’s reference to a faulty theological construct that makes God into a cosmic puppet-master who often forces people into sinful failure. How does Proverbs help us hear the harmony of divine sovereignty and human responsibility?
3. God’s Description of True Success (vv. 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 13-18)
 - a. Look back at God’s descriptions of “success” in these verses, and discuss our own sinful tendency to make idols out of these gifts.
 - b. Now, using verses 13-18, discuss how a wisdom flowing from the fear of the LORD will prevent such idolatry and instead compel worship. Consider what the new world will look like once sin has been defeated as Matthew 13:41-43 and Revelation 21:1-22:5 describe.
4. Our Means to True Success (vv. 13-20, 1, 3, 5-6a, 7, 9, 11-12)
 - a. How have you seen yourself tend toward pursuing “success” w/o first pursuing the Giver?
 - b. What has self-reliance looked like for you this week, or conversely, what has trusting the Lord looked like?
 - c. How have you seen the fruit of “steadfast love and faithfulness” having been engraved on your heart, as opposed to seeing sinful philosophies written there?
5. Man’s Perversion of True Success (vv. 27-35, 21-26)
 - a. How do these verses answer the concern of someone who is bothered at the apparent success of the wicked around us?
6. What other initial reflections, questions, or evaluation do you have regarding the sermon? What have you seen of God, yourself, the gospel, and/or the life of faith?
7. What has God been teaching you in your own personal study lately?