

Steadfast Love and Faithfulness

Proverbs 3:3-4

1. Proverbs 3:3 exhorts us not to let steadfast love and faithfulness forsake us. We can drift away or turn away from these important character qualities. What can distract or turn away our love for the Lord? What can attack or get in the way of our faithfulness?

2. Read Luke 2:52 (the word often translated as “favor” is the Greek word for grace). What is the connection between growing in wisdom and growing in grace/favor with God and man? How can my own growth in wisdom strengthen my relationship with the Lord?

3. Read 1 Samuel 2:12-36 and note the contrast between the unfaithfulness of Eli’s sons and the faithfulness of Samuel. How did Samuel’s faithfulness lead to growing in favor (common word for good things and favor) with God and man? How does this contrast with the punishment against Eli’s sons for their unfaithfulness?

4. Read James 1:17. James tells us that every good gift comes from God. Both Proverbs 3:4 and Luke 2:52 speak of finding grace with God. But as Christians, sometimes we can get the idea that we deserve good things from God or that He must bless us. How can I remember that even as a believer, God gives me good gifts out of His grace and not because He *has* to give them to me? How should this reality affect my humility and my thankfulness for the good things that God has given to me?