

2. The starting point: (30:5)
3. The continuing level: Seeing the adequacy of the Word of God and the full spread of its coverage, we make it our first source of information and guidance on all the issues of life..and I know that is a bit ideal but needs somehow to be done as a matter of policy and practice. The Spirit will guide us but there must be a following. We know how we want our children to perform...the attitude of God towards us is similar (but perfect!).
4. What is desired is a study, an understanding, and an application of the Word in the areas of life. Consider, for example, the use of the tongue (15:1-2, etc.) and bring that use home with you!
5. Application: We learn to listen to the Word first and then move to whatever must be done.

C. The Understanding of His Ways

Proverbs text: 30:1-9, et al.

1. Definition: We are told in Isaiah that His ways are beyond us (55:9) and we are not speaking of total comprehension in this section but rather of the fact that God has means and manner for accomplishing His will and these are not dictated by us. We may have to pass through deep water, etc., but we should not stop up the drain to make it that way.
2. A good place to begin is in Proverbs 16:3 as well as the text of 3:5-6. Then remember that:
 - a. He loves us
 - b. He will always be with us
 - c. He will not suffer us to be tempted above
 - d. He will complete a work in us
 - e. And He will establish us as His own forever.

We must go beyond the Book of Proverbs in giving texts to these but the ideas are clear in Proverbs. If we remember these truths we are on our way to understanding His ways.

3. Application: Look to God in trust...accepting His grace and direction, His discipline and His love.

D. The Acceptance of His Providence

Proverbs text: Proverbs 8, et al, the Wisdom of God

1. Definition: God has provided a lot for us in the course of life... and we accept this from Him with thanksgiving...that goes as far as our domestic circumstance. This cannot be a copout for our not giving ourselves fully to a life lived with one another for His glory but is an established truth needed to guide us.
2. The Application: Live thankfully and obediently in the area of life given you by God.