

## What Was I Thinking?

## [Proverbs 3:5c]

We have all asked this question to ourselves! The question is, why do we always come to the conclusion that we know what is best for us? Even Paul lamented in Romans 7, "I know the things I should do, but yet I do not do them." So, when we start leaning on our own understanding we must recognize we have a problem and it must be dealt with.

## Leaning In [5 Key Areas]:

- √ Relationships [I Corinthians 13]
- ✓ Children/Grandchildren [Hebrews 11:23; Prov. 20:7]
- ✓ Job/Career [Psalm 33:13-15; Amos 5:12, 14-15a]
- ✓ Current Crises All Over the World [Psalm 18:2, I Peter 5:7]
- ✓ Money [Malachi 3:10; Hebrews 13:5]

The Promise . . . [Philippians 4:19; Romans 8::28]

## **Discussion Questions/Prayer**

- 1. Read Proverbs 3:5-6 and Isaiah 11:2. In these texts we find a command and a promise. The command to lean into God for all our needs instead of relying on our "own understanding", and the promise of wisdom and knowledge from the Holy Sprit. In the "Leaning in" list what is the hardest for you? Why?
- 2. Read I Cor. 13:4-7. The key to success in all our relationships is love. When you read the verses about what love is not [5-6] which attitudes do you see as weaknesses in your life? As you review verse 7, what do you see as strengths? [trusting in, generous optimism, and patience . . . with others.]
- 3. Take time to pray over each area we are called to "lean in" and ask God to give you his strength and wisdom in your journey.

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust [choice] in the Lord [Yahweh - the covenant keeper] with all your heart [encapsulates mind, will, and heart] and lean not on your own understanding [reliance on self] 6 in all your ways acknowledge [intimacy - to know] Him, and He will make your paths straight.

I Corinthians 13:4-7 Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant <sup>5</sup> or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup> it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup> Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. [covers the faults of other rather than delighting in them - EBC]

John 16:13-14 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide
you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own
authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will
declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify
me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

Hebrews 11:23 By faith Moses, when he was born, was
hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the
child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king's edict.

**Proverbs 20:7** The righteous who walks in his integrity—blessed are his children after him! [Legacy]

**Psalm 33:13-15** The Lord looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man; <sup>14</sup> from where he sits enthroned he looks out on all the inhabitants of the earth, <sup>15</sup> he who fashions the hearts of them all and observes all their deeds.

Amos 5:12, 14-15a For I know how many are your transgression and how great are your sins— you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and turn aside the needy in the gate . . . , 14 Seek good [Lean in] , and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, as you have said. 15a Hate evil, and love good, and establish justice in the gate;

Psalm 18:2 The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my
deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield,
and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Malachi 3:10 Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.

Hebrews 13:5-7 Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." 6 So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me? Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.

**Philippians 4:19** And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Romans 8:28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.