

Morning Star Church
Small Group Study Guide
Directionally Challenged # 3: The Biggest Loser
January 14-20, 2010

Message Synopsis: You probably have heard somebody say this before, “*If I only knew back then what I know now.*” Hey, it might have even been you saying it! Information is something that the world seems to be on a maddening search to attain. But good information does not guarantee good decisions. Pastor Mike taught us about the importance of losing our desire to *know it all* and learning to *yield it all* over to God’s control of our lives. Submitting to God is the key to making good decisions.

Lean on, trust in, and be confident in the Lord with all your heart and mind and do not rely on your own insight or understanding. In all your ways know, recognize, and acknowledge Him, and He will direct and make straight and plain your paths.

Proverbs 3:5-6, The Amplified Bible

Additional passages to consider: Psalm 37:4-7, 23-24; Isaiah 42:14-16; John 16:13

Questions to consider in your small group:

1. After reading Proverbs 3:5-6, what are the qualities you would consider in a trustworthy person? What are some reasons people have for not completely trusting God?
2. What does *trusting God* with your entire heart look like?
3. Pastor Mike talked about *losing our need to know everything* and learn submit over control of our life to God to find direction. What areas of your life do you find it easiest to submit to God? What areas of your life are difficult to submit to God?
4. When we lean on God’s understand and not our own He promises His guidance about selecting the right path. As you read the additional passages to consider what promise stands out to you about God directing your path?
5. What path do you need God to illuminate for you? Are you prepared to follow Him on that path?

Prayer Requests:

Morning Star Church
Directionally Challenged #3: The Biggest Loser Sermon Notes
January 16-17, 2010

Principle of the Path

“Direction—not intention—determines my destination.”

STEP ONE: Honesty

STEP TWO: Live like today’s decisions
determine tomorrow’s destination.

Directional Challenge: Pride

“Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.”
(Solomon, Proverbs 16:8)

Step Three: Humility

“When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.”
(Solomon, Proverbs 11:2)

*“Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways
acknowledge him,
and he will make your paths straight.”* (Solomon, Proverbs 3:5-6)

Divine direction begins with unconditional submission.

A posture of dependency on God
directs us to a prosperous destination.

*“So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink’
or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the pagans run after all these things,
and your heavenly Father knows that you need them.
But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness,
and all these things will be given to you as well.”* (Jesus, Matthew 6:33)

*Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, you must deny yourself and
take up your cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever
loses their life for me will find it. What good will it be for you if you gain the whole world, yet forfeit
your soul?”* (Jesus, Matthew 16:24-26)

For further devotional study ...

January 18	Proverbs 3:5-6	January 22	Romans 12:1-2; 1 Peter 3:15
January 19	1 Kings 3:7-13	January 23	Proverbs 29:25; Isaiah 26:3-4
January 20	Psalms 37:4-24	January 24	Isaiah 42:14-16
January 21	Jeremiah 29:11-14		