

Name: _____

Date: _____

UNDERSTANDING GOD’S PROVIDENCE

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

Objectives

<i>Knowledge of God’s Will</i>	God wants to provide for our needs and guide our future.
<i>Knowledge of God</i>	God is a sovereign King and a loving Father.
<i>Good Works</i>	Trust in God’s provision and guidance without worry or fear.

A. God’s Providence

God presented Adam and Eve with a choice: be guided by your own desires, or trust God’s insight and direction for your lives. We have the ability to make our own plans and decisions, but God has offered His commandments as guidelines. As His children, our free will should abide by the limits placed by God.

- 1. God provides as a sovereign God and loving Father*
Abraham’s absolute trust was rewarded. No matter how difficult or miserable the situation we face, we have a sovereign God and a loving Father who will provide whatever we need when we trust in Him.
- 2. God provides during our tests of faith*
Like Daniel’s three friends, we do not know what lies in store for us. But when we trust in God and stand up for His word, we can be assured that He will answer with His provision.
- 3. God provides in our times of need*
When we are weak in our faith, we must run to God and ask Him for His providence.

B. God Is the Best Provider

- 1. God’s intimate knowledge of our past (Ps 139:16; Jer 1:5; Gal 1:15)*
- 2. God’s intimate knowledge of our present (Mt 10:29–31; Heb 4:13; Mk 4:22; Eccl 12:14; Rom 8:26)*
- 3. God’s intimate knowledge of our future (Isa 46:10; Ps 139:4; Acts 17:26; Prov 20:24; Jer 10:23)*

Life Application: Learn to Trust in God’s Providence

1. Trust in times of difficulty

God’s care and guidance are difficult to remember during trials and difficulties. We must learn to entrust our lives into God’s hands during our trials, just as Job did, so that we can receive His blessings.

2. Trust without worry or fear

The trials that we face reveal the true strength and nature of our faith. But to face such trials without fear or worry requires understanding God’s guidance and His love for us. Our fears should not be about the challenges we face, but whether we honor God after we know the truth (Heb 10:26–27).

3. Trust through prayer

We must learn to trust God with everything, but our trust only comes to life when we pray according to His will. If we do not pray often, then we likely do not know how to rely on Him.

4. Trust in spiritual friends

God is always concerned with our needs, and He will provide for us beyond what we can imagine! His goal is to shape and mold us. To do so, He uses difficult times and trials to test us, so that we can become more Christ-like. In times like these, God may work through others to help us.

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Lesson 6 Homework Assignment

Understanding God's Providence

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

Memory Verse (Romans 8:28):

1. Why is it important for us to become “those who love God”?
2. What is important to remember about our free will as God's children?
3. What are three ways God in which provides?
4. Why is God's care for us so much more effective than our own provision?
5. How do we trust God without worry or fear?
6. Share a time when you have felt anxious or forgotten about God's provision. After today's lesson, what can you change if you are faced with similar situations in the future?