

# Confidence In My Purpose

(Proverbs 3:5)

- Introduction:
1. Ills. Kim going to Ica, Peru.
  2. Ills. of meeting Kim at her boyfriend's house.
  3. Ills. Our first move and not getting hired.
  4. Were these coincidences or the working of God?
  5. The biblical doctrine of providence gives us great security, peace of mind, and confidence that our lives are worthwhile.
  6. The design of this lesson is to demonstrate that God's hand is involved in the life of every child of God, making that person's life meaningful.

## I. The Reality of God's Providence

- A. Providence is God's "provide-ance" for his people.
  1. Deism – God does nothing (Why then pray)?
  2. Fatalism – God does everything (Luke 10:31).
- B. Providence is the belief that God is shaping and molding events in this world to fulfill his purposes.
  1. Sometimes we're the objects of God's providence.
  2. Other times, we're the agents or tools in his providence toward others.
- C. Passages affirming providence.
  1. (Matthew 6:33; Romans 8:28; Hebrews 13:5-6).
  2. (Genesis 50:20) Joseph.
  3. (Esther 4:14) Esther.
  4. (Exodus 34:23-24) Children of Israel.
  5. (Hebrews 1:14) Angels.

## II. Facts About God's Providence

- A. God's work in your life doesn't mean life gets easier.
  1. Noah (Genesis 6); Mary (Matthew 1); Paul (Acts).
- B. There's a degree of uncertainty in God's providential work.
  1. (Philemon 15).
  2. Ills. of Ron and Zona Hogan.
- C. God proves those he uses (James 1:2-4).
  1. Ills. of first job offer & MDR.

- Conclusion:
1. "Said the robin to the sparrow, I should really like to know, why these anxious human beings, rush about and worry so. Said the sparrow to the robin, friend, I think it must be that they have no heavenly father such as who cares for you and me."
  2. There is tremendous comfort and confidence in knowing that God is active in my life!