**April Theme: Heart of a Learner**

**Big Idea:** Learning means living. It is progressive health in the Christian life that goes hand in hand with ongoing learning. A defining characteristic of a Christian in the first-century church was having a heart for God, which inspired them to have a teachable spirit. Becoming teachable is not about our intellect or work ethic as much as it is our heart condition.

**Trust the Process**

**Big Idea:** It’s easy to want a quick solution to become successful at something. But mastery takes hard work, perseverance, and trusting the process. Most of us need help and guidance along the way to become great at something.

**Text: Proverbs 3:5-6**

*5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart*

 *and lean not on your own understanding;*

*6 in all your ways submit to him,*

 *and he will make your paths straight.*

**Introduction:**

* **“Great things start from small beginnings.”**
* **The process between great things and small beginnings is LEARNING.**
* There is no shortcut to success. We need to go through the process of learning.

**What is Learning?**

* **Learning is the progression of knowledge, understanding, and faith.**
* **It starts with what we know and carry on to what we can do.**
* It is an ongoing process in our mind and heart.
* When you stop learning, you stop growing.

**Trust the Process (Learn to Learn)**

1. **Learning requires an all-heart commitment.**
	1. *V. 5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart*
	2. **The word “trust” here implies both a decision and a commitment to God.**
	3. The worldly way of learning is you decide and commit using your mind. But God’s way is through our hearts.
	4. **The world will give you insights, and knowledge. But God’s Word gives us revelations.**
	5. **Insights and knowledge give us information. But God’s revelation gives us purpose and meaning.**
	6. **Learning is a decision of the heart. It is not only a decision to do it (commit), but more so to whom you will learn from (trust).**
	7. Do you trust the world, or do you trust the Lord?
2. **Learning requires complete Dependency.**
	1. *V. 5…and lean not on your own understanding;*
	2. **To “lean” here means to depend on, support.**
	3. **What we learn are the building blocks of our future. These are the things that we depend on and support us.**
	4. The question is, to whom are we leaning our lives? Is it on our own? Or is it with God?
	5. **If we weigh what we know versus what God is teaching us, which is heavier?**
	6. Are we still trying to live life on our own understanding, or are we depending on what God is teaching us?
	7. **What we know will never be enough. But what God teaches us through His Word will be more than enough.**
	8. Always depend (lean) on what God is teaching you!
3. **Learning requires full submission.**
	1. *V. 6 in all your ways submit to him,*
	2. **To “submit” means to know, acknowledge, to follow.**
	3. **Learning demands understanding, accepting, and obeying what God is teaching us.**
	4. We cannot be wiser than God.
		1. *Isaiah 55:8-9*

*8 “For my thoughts are not your thoughts,*

 *neither are your ways my ways,”*

*declares the Lord.*

*9 “As the heavens are higher than the earth,*

 *so are my ways higher than your ways*

 *and my thoughts than your thoughts.*

* 1. **As we open our hearts to God’s teaching, we also commit ourselves to submit to it.**

**Conclusion:**

* Learning from God has its benefits.
* *V. 6…and he will make your paths straight.*
* **To make it “straight” is to make it “smooth.”**
* **This means “to make the way free from obstacles,” so that we can be successful.**
* What we learn from God will lead us to a much better life.
* Let us trust the process of learning from God.

**Discussion:**

* What is your view on learning?
* What is God teaching you today, and how are you receiving it?

**Offering Verse**

**1 Chronicles 29:14 (New Living Translation)**

14 But who am I, and who are my people, that we could give anything to you? Everything we have has come from you, and we give you only what you first gave us!

**Communion Verse**

**Mark 14:17-24**

17 When evening came, Jesus arrived with the Twelve. 18 While they were reclining at the table eating, he said, “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me—one who is eating with me.”

19 They were saddened, and one by one they said to him, “Surely you don’t mean me?”

20 “It is one of the Twelve,” he replied, “one who dips bread into the bowl with me. 21 The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born.”

22 While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take it; this is my body.”

23 Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and they all drank from it.

24 “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many,” he said to them.