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Casting all your cares [all your anxieties, all your worries, and all your concerns, once and for all] on Him, for He cares about you [with deepest affection, and watches over you very carefully].

1 Peter 5:7 (Amp)

Today's Encouragement

How well do you know yourself? Over the years, I would hear that you can get a sense of the type of person you are by analyzing your top five friends. As the saying goes, 'birds of a feather flock together.' That statement, in many ways, can be true. Yet, I wonder how much of our self-fulfillment is rooted in our relationship with others? In reflection of my own life, I've realized, for a long time I would look at life as a puzzle and whatever piece that I felt that was missing I'd insert a person in to fill that space. For example, if I was struggling with a job search, anxiety, stress or a rough season in life, I would identify a person to be a part of the answer followed by too many questions and unnecessary updates. Ugh! True enough, friends can offer great support but the lines can unintentionally get crossed when you assign lordship instead of friendship. Essentially, establishing small gods within others. How in the world will that maintain stability and peace? There will be far too many "well, in my opinion..." statements that will drown out the word of God. Leaving you to arrive to the inevitable state of confusion, worry, doubt, and fear. Humans tend to be hypothetical that is why we are *to lean not on our own understanding; but in all our way acknowledge Him and He will direct our paths* Proverbs 3:5-6.

God is the only one equipped to care for our hearts, in whatever condition they may be. He'll care for our hearts and supply us with infinite amounts of wisdom. But, we have to seek Him in order to receive these things. If you haven't realized by now, we have our own free will and God will not force anything upon us. Having complete dependence on others to help you through a tough time, subtracts God from being your lifeline. You've basically assigning Him to serve as backup. It's time to place your cares in divine order and follow through with His wisdom. We've got some work to do. Until next time!

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SHAYLAH SINGLETON

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