

Trust

“Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.” ~Psalm 20:7

Trust is something humans try to figure out among our various attempts at living in the world. There is trust as long as things are conveniently going our way. There is trust that things will eventually work out right. Trusting in parents, friends, pastors, and (heaven forbid!) representatives of higher government!

Many times that trust is honored. Sometimes it is broken. The real test of who we are is how we are able to find that gift of trust which God makes possible. We can always, completely, and without question trust in God. He will always do the right thing, never let us down, and will bless us amazingly if we but trust in him.

Eternal life comes from trusting in Jesus Christ as Savior. It happens because God always offers it, and always follows up on his promises.

In human terms, trust comes from being faithful in matters again and again. If we can be trusted with ordinary things, that trust builds. Friends, employers, and others trusted little by little can later be trusted with great things. So we must be careful that people can count on us regardless of the circumstances. This can only happen when God is at work in us, for humans are bound to make mistakes and fall short.

The word trust is hidden deep in a thought by Henri Nouwen, and is the key to all the rest. We are called as Christians to do good things in this world. That doing of good is lifted up in the daily moments we all experience.

Ask yourself if you made a positive difference in someone's life today. Resolve to trust God to make this happen, and to bless them as people move toward tomorrow.

Nouwen frames important spiritual questions. “Did I offer peace today?” Did I bring a smile to someone's face? Did I say words of healing? Did I let go of my anger and resentment? Did I forgive? Did I love? These are the real questions. I

must trust that the little bit of love that I sow now will bear many fruits, here in this world and the life to come.”

We as human beings set up all kinds of conditions before we can trust people. Are they trustworthy? Do they have a good memory? Are they good? Have they ever made a mistake? Do I know of something they did wrong? We set up so many barriers that we sometimes make it impossible for trust to happen, because of what we ourselves have done.

“The best way to find out if you can trust somebody,” writes Ernest Hemingway, “is to trust them.” Those moments happening again and again, and only those, build long term trust. With people, and ultimately with God.

Trust is a quality that is sadly in small supply in our world. Political parties don't trust one another. Friends don't trust each other. Even family members show a lack of trust in each other these days.

Perhaps it is because people are so self-centered, and relentless in their quest to make things better for themselves. God calls us to think of others first. Jesus says we should love God with all our heart, mind, and soul, and our neighbor as ourselves. That's the key to trust.

Loving God and others enough that you put their welfare of their own yields trust. Giving room to someone to love God enough that they are honest and kind begins with trust. And knowing that God will always keep his promises, we find trust as he does it again and again.

One of my favorite proverbs is the ancient Arabian saying, “Trust God but tie your camel. It has stood me in good stead through years of ministry.

What this means to me is to pray as if it all depends on God, but work as if it all depends on you. Some Christians don't trust God enough to do it all. Some have to do most of it themselves because they don't think God can or will do it.

Faith and common sense are not mutually exclusive. If we let them walk together will avoid common pitfalls. We don't have our head in the clouds all the time, never caring what happens on earth. And we are not tied to the earth so tightly that we can never soar through the clouds.

Trust is like quitting cigarette smoking. People say, “yes, I quit. I quit a million times!” Perhaps the problem is that they never truly did it the first time. I mean trust.

Don't trust in the things of the world, as in chariots and horses, i.e. in things man can make or things he can or cannot utilize for his use. Trust in God, dear readers, and you are set for the ultimate adventure!

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.~ Proverbs
3:5