



Preacher's Pen by Gene McCoy

Trust God

Both partners in a law firm were eating at the local diner when one of them exclaimed in a voice of alarm, "I have to go back to the office right away because I forgot to lock the safe!" The other lawyer said, "Calm down. We're both here!"

A backwoods boy was about to make his first jump as a paratrooper. His sergeant reminded him, "Count to ten and pull the ripcord. If it doesn't work, pull the ripcord for the auxiliary chute. After you land, our truck will pick you up."

The young man took a deep breath and jumped. He counted to ten and pulled the ripcord. Nothing happened. He pulled the ripcord for the auxiliary chute. Nothing happened. As he plummeted toward earth he said to himself, "I bet that truck won't be there, either."

Some days we wonder if we can trust anyone. There is no man in whom we may put our confidence and trust and not be disappointed. But we can trust God (Ps. 9:10; 84:12; 118:8; 62:5-8; 91:2).

Trust is Founded in History— What God Has Done.

God's faithfulness through history proves He is worthy of trust. Joshua 21:45 records the fact that "Not one of all the Lord's good promises to the house of Israel failed; every one was fulfilled." These promises were made hundreds of years before Joshua. The promises made to Abraham were kept; all of them, just as God said. And this He did despite the unfaithfulness of His people, so that Paul could write, "Though we are faithless, he remains faithful, for he cannot disown himself" (2 Tim. 2:13).

When the church comes together we worship God for what He has done and for Who He is. We are reminded why we have placed our faith in Him. It doesn't make our troubles and trials go away, but it is an opportunity to regain our bearings. It is one opportunity to encourage one another (Heb. 10:25) to continue trusting God.

At the weekly meeting beneath the cross, we celebrate Jesus' victory in the greatest of all battles between good and evil and renew our relationship of trust.

Trust is Nurtured in Relationship— Who God Is.

The more closely we know someone, the greater is our level of trust. We experience

this in marriage. I have implicit trust in my wife because I know who she is—faithful, loyal and dependable, among many other commendable qualities. I am comfortable talking to her about anything because of our relationship of implicit trust. We care for each other as we care for ourselves.

Distrust affects the way we talk to God. We cannot pray effectively if our relationship to Him is weak.

How would you react if you were on an elevator that got stuck between floors? Some would begin yelling and banging on the walls and doors, hoping to get someone to rescue them. But the sensible thing would be to depress the call or help button on the control panel. When our relationship with God is healthy, our prayer life will be vibrant and natural.

Our relationship to God corresponds greatly to our commitment to obedience.

Trust is Expressed in Obedience— Who We Are and What We Will Do.

Charles H. Spurgeon delivered a sermon in which he said, "The more of faith in him you have, the more of obedience to him will you manifest." This faith is first a recognition of who we are by comparison or relation to Him. He is the sovereign ruler of His creation and we are His lowly subjects, indebted to Him for life, both now and in eternity. Spurgeon also said in his sermon that "a faith which is greedy in hearing, severe in judging, and rapid in self-congratulation, but not inclined to obedience" is "the faith of hypocrites."

It is impossible to trust someone while insisting on being in control. Trust involves relinquishing control to One Whose ultimate power and authority warrant our implicit obedience.

Trust is tested during adversity and trials. Trust will patiently hold on to the promises and ride out the storm in calm assurance. Trust is submissive obedience to God, assured of the fact that He knows the best direction and will guide us to the proper destination. It is the prayer of the Carrie Underwood song, "Jesus Take the Wheel."

Conclusion

When facing trials and troubles you can trust God. Trust Him because He is faithful to keep all His promises. Trust Him because of who He is. By His very nature He is trustworthy. Nurture a relationship of trust. 🌍