

**Series Title: Life Practices // Principles from Proverbs // Trust Issues**

**Background:**

Trust Issues, we all have them, so we are all qualified to be here tonight. If you or someone you know has trust issues, share this list with them. Here are some things that indicate if we have trust issues.

- You assume betrayal
- **You await betrayal**
  - **It's not going to work out. I'm just waiting for it to fail**
- You are overly protective
- **You distance yourself from others**
  - **Because you expect people to not do things or disappoint people, you stay away**
- You avoid commitment
- You don't forgive the smallest mistakes
  - Our generation tends to be anti-forgiveness or we suffer from forgiveaphobia. "Fool me once.... Fool me twice... you won't fool me again"
- **You are excessively wary of people**
- You feel lonely or depressed
  - There's a difference between clinical depression and situational depression. You can have Jesus and a Therapist. Jesus assigned the therapist to go to school to know what they need to know to talk to you.

Tonight we are talking about the trust issues that we have with God. We wait for God's betrayal. We wait for God to fail. We are controlling. We try to keep stuff from God. **We distance ourselves from God because we don't trust him.** We avoid commitment, the Bible, the church, God. We don't forgive the smallest mistakes. **God doesn't make mistakes but because we fail to trust him, we attribute mistakes to God that we made.** We are excessively weary. **We don't have respect, reverence, or fear of God, we are just afraid of Him.** Feeling lonely or depressed, like God isn't with me, not going to church, pushing away from it all... these are all trust issues, as it relates to God.

God requires total submission from all of us, not just those of us who sit in the pulpit. God is an all-or-nothing God. God sent his son down to 40 generations, born of a virgin, to live for 33 years, then brought up on bogus charges, with nails in his feet ankles, and wrists, only to get up on Sunday morning with all power in his hands. When I say it like that, it sounds routine and robotic. We hear these things so much that instead of writing them in the tablet of our hearts we put it in our mind recorder to call back to it when we need it.

**READ: Proverbs 3:5-6: <https://www.bible.com/bible/111/PRO.3.5-6.NIV>**

- Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

This is the book of Wisdom. **You want wisdom but you don't trust God enough to let Him sit down and teach us what it is.** We see God as a sugar daddy or genie. We don't see Him as our father because we have a lot of trust issues. Don't make the mistake of thinking that you know the word of God in full. We know a little bit. **You will always get something different each time you read the word. It's living, breathing, and active.** It is not stoic. This is the living, breathing word of God, documenting His relationship with His greatest creation, mankind. We do not need to make the mistake of thinking we have it all down.

We have trust issues when it comes to God. One of the best ways to get a solution is to admit your problem. The best liars convince themselves that their lies are the truth. We see in church, some people three times as old as us who say they trust in God but as soon as something happens they think their situation is too much for God. In these situations, we begin to do exactly what the proverb says not to do. We lean on us and our own understanding. **When we look up the word *lean* in Hebrew, it means to trust in your own understanding. Do not trust in our own understanding.**

## **Trusting in God cannot be a half-hearted affair.**

It's either you do or you do not. You're all-in or you're not. **If there are areas where you struggle, He's there for you to ask Him for help.** "Help thou my unbelief." Closed mouths don't get fed. **Don't be quiet when you know that is something that you need to believe. He wants all of you. That's why it says with all of your**

**heart. Everything you have.** Even when the circumstances tell you not to, we are still called to trust in Him. **If you need proof God is worth trusting, He left His word for us.** God's track record proves itself over and over again. **So if anything deserves your trust, it's God.** Before He founded anything, He thought of you. Even in the midst of your wretchedness. Not only did He think of you, **He thought of you enough to make a way out of sin you didn't even know you were on your way in to.**

- When we get saved, we forget just how far God had to bring us and act as we've always been on solid ground. We put on this pseudo holiness and make God seem unattainable and unreachable.
- But if you would just think back to what you were doing before the pandemic started and where you are right now. If you can say from then to now that God is not worth your trust, let us know.
- **I can understand why it's hard to trust God when you've been let down by man. But, who are you that God would have to lie to you?** You're breathing His air right now, this is His ground. It's Him that gives you the ability to think in your right mind.
- What does God have to lie to you for? How arrogant! If He didn't explain Himself to Adam, what feat have you done that compares to God that would have you thinking you're even worth lying to in the first place?

**God doesn't want some of you, He wants all of you.** I trust my chair won't fall. I trust my car will get me to my destination safely. I put my trust in these things because of what I believe they are capable of doing. **If I put my trust in things because of what I think they are doing, why do I have such a hard time putting my trust in the things that I know about God?** Why do we do it? **We attribute the failures of man to God's perfect character.** God does not deserve that.

- **Trusting in God can't be a half-hearted affair.** You have to come with more than some.
- **Maybe you can't walk in your purpose because you haven't fully given Him your trust in the first place.** Has He not done enough to prove to us He deserves our trust? What more does God have to do to get our trust?
- We trust in God when we want something. When we want something from parents we would be on our best behavior. But when you get what you wanted you went back to your old behavior. We do that to God. We tithe, do love offering, we serve, we give God all we had when we want something, but when we get it, we put God on the backburner.
- **How do you think that makes God feel when the only time He hears from you is when you want something. Why do you think it's okay to do God like this?**

**Our current understanding is not enough to support us throughout life.**

You're amazing, you are fearfully and wonderfully made. But, **what you know right now is not enough to get you through the rest of life.** **Your current level of understanding is not enough to get you through life.** You have to submit yourself to someone that is wiser than you and knows more than you for you to get to where you need to get to in life. **What better source than the God of wisdom himself?** What you know can't keep you, **that's why we are instructed not to lean on our own understanding. It will steer you wrong every single time,** especially if it is not coming from God.

- Some of us have knowledge that sounds great, but it didn't come from God.
- There's a way that looks right, sounds right, and feels right. Our feelings are going to get us in a lot of trouble. **These ways seem, think, look and feel right, but it's death, physically and spiritually.** If it seems right, it's isn't right.

o READ: Proverbs 14:12 <https://my.bible.com/bible/111/PRO.14.12>

There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end, it leads to death.

o READ: Jeremiah 17:9 <https://my.bible.com/bible/111/JER.17.9>

The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?

- When we decide to trust in God, He will show us which way we need to go.
- We find ourselves stuck in loops because we continue to do things our way. How are you going to help God do His part when you need His help to do your part? How do you help the *present help* in the time of need?
  - o Tyla: one way to help God: don't.
- There's a hymn, *I will trust in the Lord until I die*. We sing this knowing full well, we are already backtracking. *I'm on the battlefield! It's for God I live and God I die*. But as soon as someone says something we don't like it's "oh lord, persecution against me..."

**Your understanding is not enough. It may be enough to get you some places. But I caution you, those places might not be where God wants you to stay and be.** If your understanding gets you there it will keep you there and you don't have keeping power like how God has keeping power. You can't beat His giving or keeping.

- God's ways are so above us when we get close we are still far off. Your understanding is not enough to get you through this life. If you want to get where God has for you, you have to get his wisdom. He will walk with you but are you willing to let go of being in control?
- Are you willing to relinquish the reins? Let go of being in control... that's something a lot of us don't want to do because we don't know the outcome. But **we don't know the outcome if we stay in control, so, what do we have to lose outside of pride and ego?**
- Your understanding, what you know right now, **as smart and as cold as you think you are, do not put your trust in you and what you understand. When you do that, what you're telling God is that you're your own god. And God doesn't want any God before Him.** Not even who you think you are.

**Total acknowledgment of God in the way we do life allows for Him to make our paths straight.**

"He will make straight your path." **If God has to make straight your path, what does that mean about the path in the first place? It's already crooked and messed up.** And you put yourself on a path of continued "messed- up-ness" and brokenness as long as you try to be God. In all of our *ways* we need to acknowledge Him and He will make straight our paths. He will do the hard part and make it straight for us, even when you're by yourself. God can see us when we're alone. He doesn't have the luxury of not seeing, hearing and knowing. A *'way'* is a manner of life. **Does the way that you currently live your life acknowledge God in all you do?** The way you do business, social media, act at work, treat family, treat yourself? **Some of us have a hard time with this because of how we look at ourselves. We don't see us how God sees us. Ask God to see what He sees when He looks at you. All He is going to show you is His son's blood covering all of you.** The negative things people said, trauma, every sin you did commit, and will commit. All of that is already covered. He doesn't see a wretch undone. **He sees a remission for your sins. Looking at it like that, makes it more doable to acknowledge Him in everything we do.**

- Once I got a mustard seed size of what God did for me, I couldn't keep it to myself so I acknowledge God daily, with how I show love, patience, grace.

- **In all of our ways, in every way we do life, if you're looking for direction, if you have an issue with where your life is headed, trust him, submit to him, do not put stock in your understanding, and acknowledge Him in all that you do.** Find Him in every scenario you do.
- **When we decide to fully trust God and submit, He will make our paths straight. That has helped with mental health.** Every day make a conscious effort to acknowledge Him in every single thing that you do.

**What pleases God is not just faith, but submission and acknowledgment in how we live our lives.** If you have trust issues, you came to the right place. Forget about what you know and what you understand. **You still think it's about you because you don't see the benefit for you. That's why it's hard to trust in God. One of the best decisions you can make is total submission to the one who gave everything.** God didn't give anything less than best. If that isn't enough, think about all that He's brought you through in your life.

● **READ: John 3:16-17** <https://my.bible.com/bible/111/JHN.3.16-17>

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

- When I think about what He has done for me, I can't help but spread that to others.
- God is in the same place you left Him in, He didn't move, you did.
- **If you want to live a life of purpose, you have to trust and submit.**

Ladies, don't submit to a man who hasn't submitted to God because there's nothing He can do for you at all. Fellas, we're supposed to submit to one another under God. If she can't cover your weaknesses when you need them or can't pick up where you fall off...**What you submit yourself to is what you serve and what you serve is what you will commit to.** When you submit to God, He is a God of order. It's for your benefit that God is a God of order. If you got whatever you want when you wanted you couldn't handle it. Submit all of your ways to God. How you spend your money, who you have relationships with.

● **READ: Ephesians 5:21** <https://my.bible.com/bible/111/EPH.5.21>

**Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.**

Acknowledge God in all that you do. If the relationships you have do not lean back to him, you have the power to do inventory on your own circle, and then check yourself.

- **READ: CHECK YA FRIEND CIRCLE'** by Jonathan D. Johnson:  
<https://www.roccsworld.com/post/check-ya-friend-circle>

**Be honest with yourself. He can't help who you pretend to be. He won't be hurt by it, it only hurts you.** Think, take inventory, analyze. **What do you want yourself to look like?** Take the steps to get there. **Ask God to help on how to get there.**

**It's time to work through your trust issues. Acknowledge them. Stop accepting mediocrity from yourself.** Make the right play. Make the right choice. Stop playing with yourself.

## **Breakout sessions:**

1. Was there a trust issue from the list we went over that you identify with? Which ones?
2. How much of the understanding you rely on from day to day is your own?
3. What else would God have to do to get you to trust Him more? To trust Him fully?