

TRUST (a multi month study 2024)

What is trust? A firm belief or assured reliance in the reliability, truth, ability, character, or strength of someone or something.

Trust in people is earned over time but this trust can be broken in a moment. You learn to rely on the other person because you feel safe with them and have confidence that they will not hurt or violate you. Trust is the foundation of relationships because it allows you to be vulnerable and open to the person without having to defensively protect yourself.

A personal relationship with Jesus is built on the foundation of Trust. You believe that Jesus is the Son of God who died for your sins and rose from the dead (John 3:16). You commit your life to Jesus. You have faith in the truth of God's word and you rest in Jesus alone for salvation (Hebrews 11:1). You obey Jesus as your sovereign Lord as He know what is best for you.

Trusting in Jesus means putting Him first in the center of your life believing in His reliability, truth, ability, character and strength. God cannot lie (Hebrews 6:18).

How do we do this?

Pray and ask for assurance. Delight yourself in the Lord and be confident that everything He does is for a purpose and His glory (Romans 8:28).

Remember that you are saved by grace through faith not by works (Ephesians 2:8-9).

7 Practical Ways to Trust God in your everyday life:

1. Seek truth in bible.
2. Confess your unbelief. Be honest (God already knows your heart).
3. Share your concerns.
4. Remember God and make sure to spend time with Him. God is bigger than your circumstances.
5. LOOK for things to be grateful for.
6. Listen to the Holy Spirit guiding you.
7. WAIT on the Lord. He always answers (yes, no, slow, grow).

Jesus was obedient to God (John 4:34, John 5:30, John 6:38, John 10:18, John 12:49-50, John 14:30-31, John 15:10, Luke 22:42). Nothing Jesus did was outside of God's will.

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your path.

4 steps to learning to trust God completely:

1. Know who God is (Jeremiah 29:13).
2. Know God's heart and intentions for you (Jeremiah 29:11, Romans 8:28).
3. Surrender your control over the outcome (Galatians 2:20, Mark 8:34).
4. Have patience (Lamentation 3:25, Psalm 27:14, Isaiah 40:31, Habakkuk 2:3, Psalm 37:7, Psalm 130:5-6).

Our faith and trust in God is entirely dependent on our knowledge of God which only comes through closeness and intimacy with Him. Psalm 40:4

Can you trust God? Is He dependable in time of adversity? Do you have such a relationship with God and such confidence in Him that you believe He is with you in all adversities even though you do not see evidence of His presence and His power?

Be honest with God

1. Show Him your heart.
2. Open yourself to vulnerability.
3. Talk to Him about protecting self
4. Tell Him how you struggle with sin.
5. Tell him what you are thinking and feeling.
6. Admit your weaknesses.

Do not worry about tomorrow....God is already there.

Hebrews 12:11 All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful: yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.

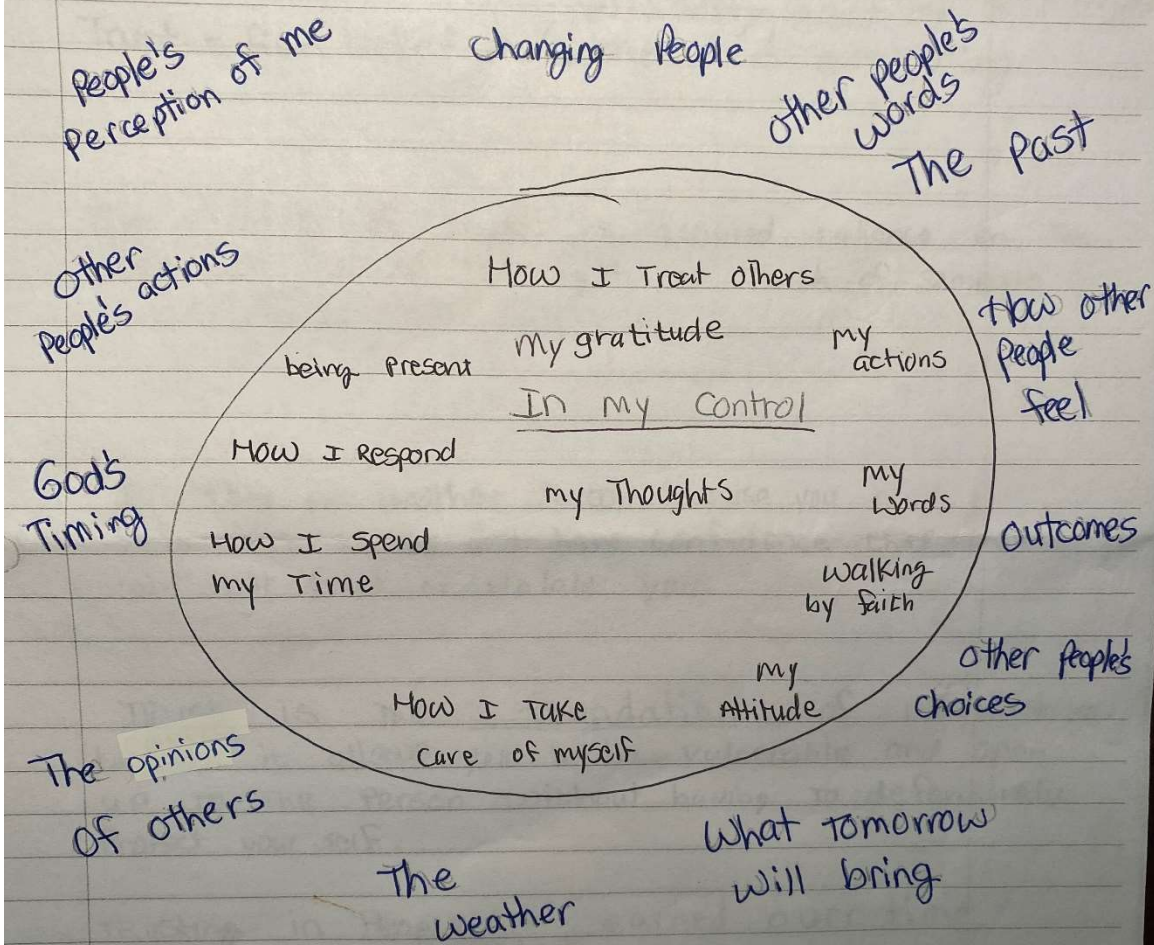
Romans 5:3-5 More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

2 Corinthians 4:17 For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison.

Ecclesiastes 7:13 Consider the work of God: who can make straight what He has made crooked?

God's providence is His constant care for and His absolute rule over all His creation for His own glory and the good of His people.

* God is in control of all of it *
Out of my control



TO BE CONTINUED NEXT MONTH...