



THE ESSENTIAL NATURE OF TRUST

I invite you to walk with me through the Old Testament and discover how God uses the stories of broken men—not perfect ones—to help us learn to trust Him. These lives aren't just ancient history; they are windows into our own struggles and hopes. Each story leads us closer to Jesus, the one in whom all trust finds its meaning. Along the way, your "trust muscle" will be stretched and strengthened as we explore what it means to truly follow the One who is trustworthy. Let's take the journey together.

LONG JOURNEY – Life's Circus of Humanity

Nothing in the world works without trust. Trust is established through relationship. Who do you trust? Who do you follow?

Highland Colony Men's Roundtable

www.MensTable.com

April 17, 2025

Scripture: Genesis 6:5-22; Job 13:13-19; Joshua 14:1-14; I Samuel 3:1-21; Nehemiah 4:1-14

Music: MercyMe: "Even If" - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rBeCOPkWG_s

Videos: Old Testament Summary - <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/old-testament-tanak/>

The Way - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xaLyKTZoLT0>

Resources: *Hitchhiking with Prophets – A Ride through the Salvation Story of the Old Testament* by Chad Bird

Trust – Knowing When to Give It, When to Withhold It, How to Earn It, and How to Fix It When It Gets Broken in Life and Business by Dr. Henry Cloud

Exploring the lives of 5 men that shows the journey to trust God!

1. Noah – Trusted Through _____.

Summary: Noah trusted God's word when it made no sense in the eyes of others. He built the ark for over 100 years while facing isolation and ridicule. His faith wasn't passive—it was obedient in the unseen. Scripture: Genesis 6–9.

2. Job – Trusted Through _____.

Summary: Job didn't trust with a smile—he trusted with tears and questions. He lost everything and wrestled deeply with God. Yet even in pain, he refused to walk away, and God met him in that raw perseverance. Scripture: Job 1–42.

3. Caleb – Trusted with Unshaken _____.

Summary: Caleb trusted God to deliver the Promised Land—even when the crowd didn't. Decades later, at 85, his faith was still strong. Trust isn't about age—it's about unwavering courage that endures across a lifetime. Scripture: Numbers 13–14; Joshua 14:6–14

4. Samuel – Trusted with _____.

Summary: Samuel grew up in a broken system and served a people who continually rejected God. But he never stopped listening, never stopped obeying. He trusted God's voice more than the approval of men. Scripture: 1 Samuel 1–3, 7, 8.

5. Nehemiah – Trusted in the _____.

Summary: Nehemiah rebuilt Jerusalem's walls with enemies on the outside and discouragement on the inside. He kept working, kept praying, and didn't give up—because he trusted the One who called him to build. Scripture: Nehemiah 1–6.

We Are Wired to Trust

1. Trust Is Built Into Our _____.

We are biologically and emotionally wired to trust. From birth, we rely on others for safety and connection. Trust is essential to how we live, love, and grow.

2. Trust Begins in _____.

Early attachment experiences shape how we trust. Secure bonds lead to trust-filled lives. Broken or inconsistent connections may require intentional healing.

3. The Brain Craves _____ to Thrive.

When we feel safe, we thrive. In unsafe environments, we shift into survival mode. Trust creates emotional and relational space for growth and freedom.

4. Broken Trust Leaves a Lasting _____.

Past betrayals change our wiring. We become more guarded or avoidant—not out of weakness, but self-protection. Healing requires acknowledging and addressing those wounds.

5. Healing Trust Requires _____.

We don't heal trust in isolation. Restoration happens through safe, honest relationships—with God, others, and ourselves.

Take Action! - Journal This!

1. Where are you on your journey of trust?
2. Who has modeled trustworthy behavior in your life—and what made them safe?
3. Where might God be inviting you to risk trusting again?



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Men's Roundtable



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Genesis 6:5-22 – 5 God saw that human evil was out of control. People thought evil, imagined evil - evil, evil, evil from morning to night. **6** God was sorry that he had made the human race in the first place; it broke his heart. **7** God said, "I'll get rid of my ruined creation, make a clean sweep: people, animals, snakes and bugs, birds - the works. I'm sorry I made them." **8** But Noah was different. God liked what he saw in Noah. **9** This is the story of Noah: Noah was a good man, a man of integrity in his community. Noah walked with God. **10** Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. **11** As far as God was concerned, the Earth had become a sewer; there was violence everywhere. **12** God took one look and saw how bad it was, everyone corrupt and corrupting - life itself corrupt to the core. **13** God said to Noah, "It's all over. It's the end of the human race. The violence is everywhere; I'm making a clean sweep. **14** "Build yourself a ship from teakwood. Make rooms in it. Coat it with pitch inside and out. **15** Make it 450 feet long, seventy-five feet wide, and forty-five feet high. **16** Build a roof for it and put in a window eighteen inches from the top; put in a door on the side of the ship; and make three decks, lower, middle, and upper. **17** "I'm going to bring a flood on the Earth that will destroy everything alive under Heaven. Total destruction. **18** "But I'm going to establish a covenant with you: You'll board the ship, and your sons, your wife and your sons' wives will come on board with you. **19** You are also to take two of each living creature, a male and a female, on board the ship, to preserve their lives with you. **20** two of every species of bird, mammal, and reptile - two of everything so as to preserve their lives along with yours. **21** Also get all the food you'll need and store it up for you and them. **22** Noah did everything God commanded him to do.

Job 13:13-19 – 13 "So hold your tongue while I have my say, then I'll take whatever I have coming to me. **14** Why do I go out on a limb like this and take my life in my hands? **15** Because even if he killed me, I'd keep on hoping. I'd defend my innocence to the very end. **16** Just wait, this is going to work out for the best - my salvation! If I were guilt-stricken do you think I'd be doing this - laying myself on the line before God? **17** You'd better pay attention to what I'm telling you, listen carefully with both ears. **18** Now that I've laid out my defense, I'm sure that I'll be acquitted. **19** Can anyone prove charges against me? I've said my piece. I rest my case. Why Does God Stay Hidden and Silent?

Joshua 14:1-14 – 6 The people of Judah came to Joshua at Gilgal. Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite spoke: "You'll remember what God said to Moses the man of God concerning you and me back at Kadesh Barnea. **7** I was forty years old when Moses the servant of God sent me from Kadesh Barnea to spy out the land. And I brought back an honest and accurate report. **8** My companions who went with me discouraged the people, but I

stuck to my guns, totally with God, my God. **9** That was the day that Moses solemnly promised, 'The land on which your feet have walked will be your inheritance, you and your children's, forever. Yes, you have lived totally for God.' **10** Now look at me: God has kept me alive, as he promised. It is now forty-five years since God spoke this word to Moses, years in which Israel wandered in the wilderness. And here I am today, eighty-five years old! **11** I'm as strong as I was the day Moses sent me out. I'm as strong as ever in battle, whether coming or going. **12** So give me this hill country that God promised me. You yourself heard the report, that the Anakim were there with their great fortress cities. If God goes with me, I will drive them out, just as God said." **13** Joshua blessed him. He gave Hebron to Caleb son of Jephunneh as an inheritance. **14** Hebron belongs to Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite still today, because he gave himself totally to God, the God of Israel.

1 Samuel 3:1-21 – 1 The boy Samuel was serving God under Eli's direction. This was at a time when the revelation of God was rarely heard or seen. **2** One night Eli was sound asleep (his eyesight was very bad - he could hardly see). **3** It was well before dawn; the sanctuary lamp was still burning. Samuel was still in bed in the Temple of God, where the Chest of God rested. **4** Then God called out, "Samuel, Samuel!" **5** Then he ran to Eli saying, "I heard you call. Here I am." Eli said, "I didn't call you. Go back to bed." And so he did. **6** God called again, "Samuel, Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, "I heard you call. Here I am." **7** (This all happened before Samuel knew God for himself. It was before the revelation of God had been given to him personally. **8** God called again, "Samuel!" - the third time! Yet again Samuel got up and went to Eli, "Yes? I heard you call me. Here I am."

Nehemiah 4:1-6 – 1 When Sanballat heard that we were rebuilding the wall he exploded in anger, vilifying the Jews. **2** In the company of his Samaritan cronies and military he let loose: "What are these miserable Jews doing? Do they think they can get everything back to normal overnight? Make building stones out of make-believe?" **3** At his side, Tobiah the Ammonite jumped in and said, "That's right! What do they think they're building? Why, if a fox climbed that wall, it would fall to pieces under his weight." **4** Nehemiah prayed, "Oh listen to us, dear God. We're so despised: Boomerang their ridicule on their heads; have their enemies cart them off as war trophies to a land of no return; **5** don't forgive their iniquity, don't wipe away their sin - they've insulted the builders!" **6** We kept at it, repairing and rebuilding the wall. The whole wall was soon joined together and halfway to its intended height because the people had a heart for the work.

"Even If" By Mercy Me

<p>They say sometimes you win some Sometimes you lose some And right now, right now I'm losing bad I've stood on this stage night after night Reminding the broken it'll be alright But right now, oh right now I just can't It's easy to sing When there's nothing to bring me down But what will I say When I'm held to the flame Like I am right now I know You're able and I know You can Save through the fire with Your mighty hand But even if You don't My hope is You alone They say it only takes a little faith</p>	<p>To move a mountain Good thing A little faith is all I have right now But God, when You choose To leave mountains unmovable Give me the strength to be able to sing It is well with my soul I know You're able and I know You can Save through the fire with Your mighty hand But even if You don't My hope is You alone I know the sorrow, and I know the hurt Would all go away if You'd just say the word But even if You don't My hope is You alone You've been faithful, You've been good</p>	<p>All of my days Jesus, I will cling to You Come what may 'Cause I know You're able I know You can I know You're able and I know You can Save through the fire with Your mighty hand But even if You don't My hope is You alone I know the sorrow, and I know the hurt Would all go away if You'd just say the word But even if You don't My hope is You alone My hope is you alone It is well with my soul It is well, it is well with my soul</p>
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