



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.

THE GARDEN – Trust and the Beginning of Brokenness

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 2:8, 9; Genesis 2:16, 17; Genesis 3:8; Genesis 3:9, 10; Genesis 3:21

Music: Eden by Phil Wickham - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nVEfSteBsbw>

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

Through Snow and Blood: Hugh Glass's Journey | The Revenant <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XwhimgCTnFg>

Hugh Glass 'The Revenant' Protagonist Was Even More Badass In Real Life <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bW-yVdIT3Tg>

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

THE GARDEN: Trust and the Beginning of Brokenness

1. **God Created an _____ of Complete Provision.**

God placed Adam and Eve in a garden that overflowed with beauty, nourishment, and delight. He met their needs before they even knew them. Trust grows in an atmosphere of provision, not pressure. See Genesis 2:8, 9.

2. **God Established _____ Within Relationship.**

God gave freedom first, and then one boundary. He didn't restrict out of control—but protected out of care. True trust is formed when we believe God's limits are for our good. See Genesis 2:16, 17.

3. **God Walked _____—Presence Was Personal.**

Before sin entered, God walked in the garden with Adam and Eve. His presence was relational, not transactional. Trust was rooted in nearness. See Genesis 3:8.

4. **God _____ After the Fall, Not in Anger but with a Question.**

God's first response to their disobedience wasn't punishment—it was a question: 'Where are you?' He invited connection rather than condemnation. See Genesis 3:9.

5. **God _____ Their Shame and Pointed to Redemption.**

Even in discipline, God moved with mercy. He covered their shame with garments He made—a foreshadowing of Christ's covering. God doesn't abandon us when trust breaks—He redeems. See Genesis 3:21.

The 5 Essentials of Trust

1. _____
You trust people who 'get you.' They listen, empathize, and validate your perspective without quick fixes.
2. _____
Trust is built when the other person's heart is for you, not just for their own interests. You feel safe when someone genuinely wants your good.
3. _____
Good intentions aren't enough. We trust people who are competent—who have the skills, wisdom, or experience to follow through.
4. _____
You trust those who do the right thing when it costs them. Integrity, humility, and consistency over time shape deep trust.
5. _____
Trust is strengthened when someone has shown up again and again—when they've proven themselves trustworthy through real-life situations.

Take Action! Journal This!

1. Who do you trust and WHY?
2. Who has broken your trust and WHY?
3. What makes a person safe/trustworthy?



Sign in to this Thursday's
Men's Roundtable



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SCRIPTURE – The Message

Genesis 2:8, 9 - 8 Then God planted a garden in Eden, in the east. He put the Man he had just made in it. **9** God made all kinds of trees grow from the ground, trees beautiful to look at and good to eat. The Tree-of-Life was in the middle of the garden, also the Tree-of-Knowledge-of-Good-and-Evil.

Genesis 2:16, 17 - 16 God commanded the Man, "You can eat from any tree in the garden, **17** except from the Tree-of-Knowledge-of-Good-and-Evil. Don't eat from it. The moment you eat from that tree, you're dead."

Genesis 3:8 - 8 When they heard the sound of God strolling in the garden in the evening breeze, the Man and his Wife hid in the trees of the garden, hid from God.

Genesis 3:9, 10 - 9 God called to the Man: "Where are you?"

10 He said, "I heard you in the garden and I was afraid because I was naked. And I hid."

Genesis 3:21 - 21 God made leather clothing for Adam and his wife and dressed them.

"Eden" By Phil Wickham

When the first light brightened the dark
Before the breaking of the human heart
There was You and there was me
Innocence was all I knew
'Cause all I had to know was You
We were running underneath the trees
I wanna see You face to face
Where being in Your arms is the permanent
state
I want it like it was back then, I wanna be in
Eden
I remember how You called my name
And I would meet You at the garden gate
How the glory of Your love would shine

And I remember when the stars were young
You breathed life into my lungs
Oh, I never felt so alive
I wanna see You face to face
Where being in Your arms is the permanent
state
I want it like it was back then, I wanna be in
Eden
To be naked and unashamed in a sweet
downpour of innocent rain
I want it like it was back then, I wanna be in
Eden
Where my eyes can see the colors of glory
My hands can reach the Heaven before me

Oh, my God, I wanna be there with You
Where our hearts will beat with joy together
And love will reign forever and ever
Oh, my God, I wanna be there with You
I wanna see You face to face
Where being in Your arms is the permanent
state
I want it like it was back then, I wanna be in
Eden
To be naked and unashamed in a sweet
downpour of innocent rain
I want it like it was back then, I wanna be in
Eden (Ooh)
(Ooh-ooh, ooh-ooh) (Ooh-ooh, ooh-ooh)
(Ooh-ooh, ooh-ooh) (Ooh-ooh...)

Philip K. Hardin, M.A., M.Div.

Director of Business & Professional Outreach, Intl. - Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist, Licensed Professional Counselor, and Certified Life Coach
563 Johnson Avenue – Fairhope, Alabama 36532
Phone: 601-925-0707

Email: phil@bpointl.org

Webpage: www.bpointl.org