



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.

NOAH – Trust & the Scandal of Nakedness

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

May 8, 2025

Scripture: Genesis 6:13-22; Genesis 7:1-16; Genesis 8:1; Genesis 9:20, 21

Music: Out of Hiding (Father's Song) - Steffany Gretzinger - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tdlUcEYPZ9k>

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

Blind Side Empathy EI - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D2sgbzSm5Cs>

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

HOW GOD MOVES US TO TRUST THROUGH THE STORY OF NOAH

1. _____ → **God Asks Us to Obey Before We See the Outcome**

God told Noah to build an ark for a flood no one had ever seen. There was no precedent—just a promise. Trust grows when we respond to God's voice, not our circumstances. Genesis 6:13-22.

2. _____ → **God always makes a Way of Rescue in the Midst of Judgment.**

God didn't just warn Noah—He gave him a plan of salvation. The ark is a picture of Christ: one door, one way to be saved. Genesis 7:1-16.

3. _____ → **God Remembers and Restores.**

After months in the ark, the silence must've been deafening. But God never forgot. He sent a wind, dried the earth, and reestablished covenant. Genesis 8:1.

NOAH'S NAKEDNESS: A Gospel Foreshadowing

1. _____ → **Exposure Reveals Human Fallenness After Salvation**

Noah, the righteous preacher, gets drunk and lies naked in his tent. It's a sobering reminder: salvation from the flood doesn't erase the inner brokenness of man. Genesis 9:20, 21.

2. _____ → **Shame Demands a Covering—But Not One of Our Own Making**

Just as God clothed Adam, Shem and Japheth cover their father without shaming him. The Gospel doesn't expose to condemn. It covers in mercy. Christ is our external covering.

3. _____ → **The True Son Honors the Father**

Shem and Japheth act in a priestly manner. In Christ, we see the True Son who doesn't expose our sin—but bears it. Noah's nakedness echoes the vulnerability of Christ on the cross.

The 5 Essentials of Trust

1. **Understanding** You trust people who 'get you.' They listen, empathize, and validate your perspective without quick fixes.
2. **Motive** 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. **Ability** Good intentions aren't enough. We trust people who are competent—who have the skills, wisdom, or experience to follow through.
4. **Character** You trust those who do the right thing when it costs them. Integrity, humility, and consistency over time shape deep trust.
5. **Track Record** Trust is strengthened when someone has shown up again and again—when they've proven themselves trustworthy through real-life situations.

UNDERSTANDING: The First Essential of Trust

1. _____ → Understanding is the first bridge of trust. When someone truly 'gets us'—our fears, wounds, or motives—we feel safe. That safety becomes the soil where trust can grow. Understanding is not agreement, enabling, or advice—it is connection.
2. _____ → Dr. Cloud emphasizes that to trust someone, we need to know they will hear us, empathize with us, and respond in a way that respects our story. God models this beautifully in the story of Noah: He knows the condition of the world, remembers Noah in the ark, and continues covenant even after Noah's failure.

This shows us that God's trustworthiness is rooted in His understanding of our condition—not in our performance.

"Trust begins when someone looks into your reality and doesn't flinch." – Dr. Henry Cloud, TRUST



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Men's Roundtable



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Take Action! - Journal This!

1. When have you experienced being deeply understood by someone?
2. Where might God be asking you to offer understanding to someone else rather than advice or correction?
3. How has God demonstrated that HE understands your story, struggles, or fears?

SCRIPTURE – The Message

<p>Genesis 6:13-22 - 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.</p> <p>Genesis 7:1-16 - 1 Next God said to Noah, "Now board the ship, you and all your family - out of everyone in this generation, you're the righteous one.2 "Take on board with you seven pairs of every clean animal, a male and a female; one pair of every unclean animal, a male and a female;3 and seven pairs of every kind of bird, a male and a female, to insure their survival on Earth.4 In just seven days I will dump rain on Earth for forty days and forty nights. I'll make a clean sweep of everything that I've</p>	<p>made."5 Noah did everything God commanded him.6 Noah was 600 years old when the floodwaters covered the Earth.7 Noah and his wife and sons and their wives boarded the ship to escape the flood.8 Clean and unclean animals, birds, and all the crawling creatures9 came in pairs to Noah and to the ship, male and female, just as God had commanded Noah.10 In seven days the floodwaters came.11 It was the six-hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month that it happened: all the underground springs erupted and all the windows of Heaven were thrown open.12 Rain poured for forty days and forty nights.13 That's the day Noah and his sons Shem, Ham, and Japheth, accompanied by his wife and his sons' wives, boarded the ship.14 And with them every kind of wild and domestic animal, right down to all the kinds of creatures that crawl and all kinds of birds and anything that flies.15 They came to Noah and to the ship in pairs - everything and anything that had the breath of life in it,16 male and female of every creature came just as God had commanded Noah. Then God shut the door behind him.</p> <p>Genesis 8:1 - 1 Then God turned his attention to Noah and all the wild animals and farm animals with him on the ship. God caused the wind to blow and the floodwaters began to go down.</p> <p>Genesis 9:20, 21 - 20 Noah, a farmer, was the first to plant a vineyard.21 He drank from its wine, got drunk and passed out, naked in his tent.</p>
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"Eden" By Phil Wickham

<p>Come out of hiding, You're safe here with Me There's no need to cover what I already see You've got your reasons, but I hold your peace You've been on lockdown, and I hold the Key. 'Cause I loved you before you knew what was love</p> <p>I saw it all, still I chose the cross You were the one that I was thinking of When I rose from the grave Now rid of the shackles, My victory is yours I tore the veil for you to come close There's no reason to stand at a distance anymore</p> <p>You're not far from home And I'll be your lighthouse when you're lost at sea</p>	<p>I will illuminate everything No need to be frightened by intimacy No, just throw off your fear and come running to Me</p> <p>Oh, 'cause I loved you before you knew what was love</p> <p>I saw it all, still I chose the cross And you were the one that I was thinking of When I rose from the grave Now rid of the shackles, My victory is yours I tore the veil for you to come close There's no reason to stand at a distance anymore</p> <p>You're not far from home You're not far from home, no Keep on coming</p>	<p>And oh as you run, what hindered love Will only become part of the story? And oh as you run, what hindered love Will only become part of the story? And oh as you run, what hindered love Will only become part of the story? And oh as you run, what hindered love Will only become part of the story?</p> <p>Baby, you're almost home now Please don't quit now You're almost home to Me Baby, you're almost home now Please don't quit now You're almost home to Me (yes, you are) Now baby, you're almost home now Please don't quit now You're almost home to Me</p>
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