



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.

JOSEPH – Learning Trust through a Long Journey

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

June 12, 2025

Scripture: Genesis 39:6-15; Genesis 40:12-23; Genesis 50:19-21

Music: Jamal Roberts and Jelly Roll - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=odFv97_0sew

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

The Judge_Lake scene - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o5amOpGx8Y0>

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

JOSEPH: Learning Trust through a Long Journey.

1. _____ → **Trust Is Faithful When No One Is Watching.** Joseph resists temptation from Potiphar's wife, not out of fear of consequences, but because of his trust in God's presence. He honors God in private, though it costs him his position and freedom. Genesis 39:6-15.
2. _____ → **Trust Clings to Purpose in the Pit.** Joseph interprets dreams in prison and is forgotten for two years. Still, he remains faithful, using his gifts and believing God is still at work. Genesis 40:12-23.
3. _____ → **Trust Forgives.** Joseph sees God's hand even in betrayal, choosing to forgive and bless his brothers. Trust releases revenge and believes in God's redemptive plan. Genesis 50:19-21.

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.

CHARACTER: The Fourth Essential of Trust

1. _____ → Character is the inner structure that enables a person to handle demands of reality well. Character is not just about being nice—it's about having the emotional, moral, and spiritual capacity to follow through.

Joseph demonstrates deep character through perseverance, self-restraint, and forgiveness. He doesn't break under pressure; he deepens. He doesn't seek vengeance; he restores. His decisions are not based on what he feels, but on who he trusts.

Four traits of trustworthy character:

1. Grace and Truth – The ability to offer mercy while still holding to what is right.
2. Ownership – The capacity to take responsibility without blaming others.
3. Emotional Regulation – Staying grounded under pressure.
4. Empathy – Choosing connection over control.

Joseph's rise wasn't just a change in circumstances—it was a reflection of the kind of man he had become. Trustworthy. Faithful. Formed by character.

Take Action! Journal This!

1. Will you honor God even when obedience is costly and no one is applauding?
2. Can you still believe God is at work when your situation doesn't change?
3. Are you willing to release those who hurt you, trusting that God is the just One?



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Men's Roundtable



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SCRIPTURE – The Message

Genesis 39:6-15 - 6 and all Potiphar had to concern himself with was eating three meals a day.**7** As time went on, his master's wife became infatuated with Joseph and one day said, "Sleep with me."**8** He wouldn't do it. He said to his master's wife, "Look, with me here, my master doesn't give a second thought to anything that goes on here - he's put me in charge of everything he owns.**9** He treats me as an equal. The only thing he hasn't turned over to me is you. You're his wife, after all! How could I violate his trust and sin against God?"**10** She pestered him day after day after day, but he stood his ground. He refused to go to bed with her.**11** On one of these days he came to the house to do his work and none of the household servants happened to be there.**12** She grabbed him by his cloak, saying, "Sleep with me!" He left his coat in her hand and ran out of the house.**13** When she realized that he had left his coat in her hand and run outside,**14** she called to her house servants: "Look - this Hebrew shows up and before you know it he's trying to seduce us. He tried to make love to me but I yelled as loud as I could.**15** With all my yelling and screaming, he left his coat beside me here and ran outside."

Genesis 40:12-23 - 12 Joseph said, "Here's the meaning. The three branches are three days.**13** Within three days, Pharaoh will get you out of here and put you back to your old work - you'll be giving Pharaoh his cup just as you used to do when you were his cupbearer.**14** Only remember me when things are going well with you again - tell Pharaoh about me and

get me out of this place.**15** I was kidnapped from the land of the Hebrews And since I've been here, I've done nothing to deserve being put in this hole."**16** When the head baker saw how well Joseph's interpretation turned out, he spoke up: "My dream went like this: I saw three wicker baskets on my head;**17** the top basket had assorted pastries from the bakery and birds were picking at them from the basket on my head."**18** Joseph said, "This is the interpretation: The three baskets are three days;**19** within three days Pharaoh will take off your head, impale you on a post, and the birds will pick your bones clean."**20** And sure enough, on the third day it was Pharaoh's birthday and he threw a feast for all his servants. He set the head cupbearer and the head baker in places of honor in the presence of all the guests.**21** Then he restored the head cupbearer to his cupbearing post; he handed Pharaoh his cup just as before.**22** And then he impaled the head baker on a post, following Joseph's interpretations exactly.**23** But the head cupbearer never gave Joseph another thought; he forgot all about him.

Genesis 50:19-21 - 19 Joseph replied, "Don't be afraid. Do I act for God?**20** Don't you see, you planned evil against me but God used those same plans for my good, as you see all around you right now - life for many people.**21** Easy now, you have nothing to fear; I'll take care of you and your children." He reassured them, speaking with them heart-to-heart.

"Liar" By Jamal Roberts & Jelly Roll

I, I let you drive around my mind
I can't count the times you made me feel like I'm
nothing Played me like a fool
Like a fool Saying, "Drink another whiskey
Pop another pilloney makes you happy
Heaven isn't real You won't find nobody to love
because your heart's too broke" Now I know
You ain't nothing but a liar
Yeah, I walked right out the fire
Yeah, you try to keep me down
Try to put me underground
But I'm only going higher
I can hear you in my head, in my bed, when I'm
dreaming You try to be my friend, but you're
blowing smoke

Oh, but now I ain't scared of telling you where
you can go 'Cause I know you're nothing but a
liar You burned me one too many times
Like a devil in disguise, hiding your true colors
Just leave me alone Keep leading me on
Saying, "Drink another whiskey
Pop another pill Money makes you happy
Heaven isn't real You won't find nobody to love
because your heart's too broke" Now I know
You ain't nothing but a liar
Yeah, I walked right out the fire
Yeah, you try to keep me down
Try to put me underground
But I'm only going higher
I can hear you in my head, in my bed, when I'm

dreaming You try to be my friend, but you're
blowing smoke Oh, but now I ain't scared of
telling you where you can go
'Cause I know you're nothing but a liar
If I was doing what you do
Then you would swear I poisoned you
You're nothing but a liar (Liar)
Yeah, I walked right out the fire (Fire)
Yeah, you try to keep me down
Try to put me underground But I'm only going
higher I can hear you in my head, in my bed,
when I'm dreaming You try to be my friend, but
you're blowing smoke Oh, but now I ain't scared
of telling you where you can go 'Cause I know
you're nothing but a liar

"Unpretty" By Jelly Roll

Been a broken-down car on a side street
Damn near lost it all on a bad week
Hmm I was praying for change
How could only twelve steps feel so far away?
So many lies I start counting
Trying to walk a straight line felt like trying to
move a mountain
And I was praying for change
Would've died if I had stayed the same
Hmm I hate the man I used to be
But he'll always be a part of me
Right now, looking at my past
I know it's unpretty
Can't hide the pain that I've been through
I wear my scars like my tattoos

The man who I was, was wrong
But he's the one who built me
Said, I am nothing without my sins
I can't pretend I'm not unpretty
Been the whiskey glass left half-empty
Seen the bright lights a few times, and that's
what saved me Ain't no stranger to pain
The ones who love me all feel the same
With every one step forward, fell ten steps back
Lot of years in the dark felt just like that
Oh, I never thought I'd see the day
When I'd forgive myself and say
I hate the man I used to be
But he'll always be a part of me

Right now, looking at my past
I know it's unpretty (Oh, Lord, I know)
Can't hide the pain that I've been through
I wear my scars like my tattoos
The man who I was, was wrong
But he's the one who built me
Said, I am nothing without my sins
I can't pretend I'm not unpretty
Said, I am nothing without my sins (I am nothing
without my sins) I can't pretend
I'm not unpretty I hate the man I used to be
But he'll always be a part of me
Right now, looking at my past
I know it's unpretty

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