



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.

ELISHA – Trusting God in the Ordinary and the Impossible

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

October 16, 2025

Scripture: II Kings 6:1-7; II Kings 6:8-23

Music: Matthew West - The God Who Stays - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QPwd_TQpsHY

Videos:

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

Elisha: Two Major Trust Lessons

1. _____ → **Trust God's Presence in the Ordinary.** Elisha's ministry shows us that God is not only present in grand miracles but also in the small, ordinary moments of life. He helped a widow multiply her oil to provide for her family. He caused a lost axe head to float — a simple act, yet one that revealed God's concern for even minor losses.

REMEMBER: Trust is strengthened when we recognize God's presence in the ordinary. Elisha teaches us that no concern is too small for God. Trust grows not in the absence of difficulty, but in the awareness that God walks with us in it. "God is in the details — His presence fills both the heavens and the workshop." 2 Kings 4:1-7; 2 Kings 6:1-7.

2. _____ → **Trust God's Power When You Cannot See the Way Forward.** When Elisha's servant panicked at the sight of a massive enemy army, Elisha prayed, "Lord, open his eyes that he may see." The young man's eyes were opened to see the hills full of horses and chariots of fire — God's heavenly army surrounding them.

REMEMBER: Trust begins where sight ends. Elisha teaches us that faith sees beyond fear. God's protection and purpose are often invisible, but they are never absent. "Faith is not believing in spite of the evidence; it is obeying in spite of the fear." 2 Kings 6:8-23 – The Aramean Army and the Invisible Hosts.

How Elisha Points to Jesus

Elisha's ministry foreshadows Jesus in several ways:

1. **Miracles of compassion:** Elisha multiplied loaves to feed the hungry (2 Kings 4:42-44), just as Jesus fed the multitudes.
2. **Healing power:** Elisha healed Naaman the leper (2 Kings 5), prefiguring Christ's cleansing of both body and soul.
3. **Restoration of life:** Elisha raised the Shunammite's son (2 Kings 4:18-37), pointing toward Christ's resurrection power.
4. **Grace to outsiders:** Naaman, a Gentile, was healed — a foretaste of Jesus' ministry to all nations.
5. Through Elisha, we see a God who steps into our human story to bring **restoration, healing, and hope** — all fulfilled perfectly in Jesus, the true and greater Elisha.

REPAIRING BROKEN TRUST

Step 1 – Acknowledge the Breach → You cannot repair what you won't admit. Be specific about what happened and how trust was damaged.

TRUST: Denial delays healing; humility begins restoration.

Step 2 – Own Your Role → Take responsibility for your part—even if it's partial. Avoid blame-shifting or minimizing. TRUST = Proverbs 28:13 — "Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy."

Step 3 – Understand the Impact → Show empathy for the pain or consequences caused. Listen fully before offering solutions. TRUST = People trust again when they feel seen, heard, and understood.

Step 4 – Make Amends → Offer a clear, specific plan to repair the harm done. Follow through on your commitments. TRUST = Trust grows when words and actions align.

Step 5 – Rebuild Through Consistency → Trust isn't rebuilt overnight; it's restored one consistent choice at a time. TRUST = Dr. Cloud calls this the "deposit effect"—small actions that slowly refill the trust account.

Step 6 – Establish Healthy Boundaries → Moving forward requires clarity on expectations, responsibilities, and limits. TRUST = Healthy relationships balance grace and truth.



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Take Action! Journal This!

1. Trust in the ordinary (2 Kings 4:1–7; 6:1–7). Where do you need to invite God into something “small” (finances, tools, time, family routines)? What one practical step will you take this week to act in trust, not self-reliance?
2. Seeing beyond fear (2 Kings 6:8–23). What “army” feels arrayed against you right now (pressure, temptation, conflict, uncertainty)? How can you “open your eyes” this week—through prayer, Scripture, or brotherly accountability—to remember God’s unseen help?

Scripture – The Message

II Kings 6:1-7 - 1 One day the guild of prophets came to Elisha and said, "You can see that this place where we're living under your leadership is getting cramped - we have no elbow room. **2** Give us permission to go down to the Jordan where each of us will get a log. We'll build a roomier place." Elisha said, "Go ahead." **3** One of them then said, "Please! Come along with us!" He said, "Certainly." **4** He went with them. They came to the Jordan and started chopping down trees. **5** As one of them was felling a timber, his axhead flew off and sank in the river. "Oh no, master!" he cried out. "And it was borrowed!" **6** The Holy Man said, "Where did it sink?" The man showed him the place. He cut off a branch and tossed it at the spot. The axhead floated up. **7** "Grab it," he said. The man reached out and took it.

II Kings 6:8-23 - 8 One time when the king of Aram was at war with Israel, after consulting with his officers, he said, "At such and such a place I want an ambush set." **9** The Holy Man sent a message to the king of Israel: "Watch out when you're passing this place, because Aram has set an ambush there." **10** So the king of Israel sent word concerning the place of which the Holy Man had warned him. This kind of thing happened all the time. **11** The king of Aram was furious over all this. He called his officers together and said, "Tell me, who is leaking information to the king of Israel? Who is the spy in our ranks?" **12** But one of his men said, "No, my master, dear king. It's not any of us. It's Elisha the prophet in Israel. He tells the king of Israel everything you say, even what you whisper in your

bedroom." **13** The king said, "Go and find out where he is. I'll send someone and capture him." The report came back, "He's in Dothan." **14** Then he dispatched horses and chariots, an impressive fighting force. They came by night and surrounded the city. **15** Early in the morning a servant of the Holy Man got up and went out. Surprise! Horses and chariots surrounding the city! The young man exclaimed, "Oh, master! What shall we do?" **16** He said, "Don't worry about it - there are more on our side than on their side." **17** Then Elisha prayed, "O God, open his eyes and let him see." The eyes of the young man were opened and he saw. A wonder! The whole mountainside full of horses and chariots of fire surrounding Elisha! **18** When the Arameans attacked, Elisha prayed to God, "Strike these people blind!" And God struck them blind, just as Elisha said. **19** Then Elisha called out to them, "Not that way! Not this city! Follow me and I'll lead you to the man you're looking for." And he led them into Samaria. **20** As they entered the city, Elisha prayed, "O God, open their eyes so they can see where they are." God opened their eyes. They looked around - they were trapped in Samaria! **21** When the king of Israel saw them, he said to Elisha, "Father, shall I massacre the lot?" **22** "Not on your life!" said Elisha. "You didn't lift a hand to capture them, and now you're going to kill them? No sir, make a feast for them and send them back to their master." **23** So he prepared a huge feast for them. After they ate and drank their fill he dismissed them. Then they returned home to their master. The raiding bands of Aram didn't bother Israel anymore.

"The God Who Stays" By Matthew West

If I were You I would've given up on me by now I would've labeled me a lost cause 'Cause I feel just like a lost cause If I were You I would've turned around and walked away I would've labeled me beyond repair 'Cause I feel like I'm beyond repair Oh, but somehow You don't see me like I do Somehow You're still here You're the God who stays You're the God who stays You're the one who runs in my direction When the whole world walks away You're the God who stands With wide open arms And You tell me nothing I have ever done can separate my heart From the God who stays I used to hide Every time I thought I let You down I always thought I had to earn my way But I'm learning You don't work that way 'Cause somehow You don't see me like I do	Somehow You're still here You're the God who stays (You're the God who stays) You're the God who stays (You're the God who stays) You're the one who runs in my direction When the whole world walks away You're the God who stands (You're the God who stands) With wide open arms (With wide open arms) And You tell me nothing I have ever done can separate my heart From the God who stays My shame can't separate My guilt can't separate My past can't separate I'm Yours forever My sin can't separate My scars can't separate My failures can't separate I'm Yours forever No enemy can separate No power of hell can take away Your love for me will never change	You're the God who stays (You're the God who stays) You're the God who stays (You're the God who stays) You're the one who runs in my direction When the whole world walks away You're the God who stands (You're the God who stands) With wide open arms (With wide open arms) And You tell me nothing I have ever done can separate my heart From the God who stays You're the God who stays You're the one who runs in my direction When the whole world walks away You're the God who stands With wide open arms And You tell me nothing I have ever done can separate my heart From the God who stays
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