Trust Stands on the Shoulders of Faith

Proverbs 3:5, Hebrews 3:5

So much of faith is dependent on the concept of trust. We must understand and remember what trust is before we can begin to trust. We must grasp and embrace the idea of trust. What is trust? What does trust look like? In its essence, trust says you have surrendered the outcome to God. Only surrender allows you to wait confidently for God. Surrender removes you from being concerned about the outcome and propels you to seek God's will. It is His will that becomes important, not ours. This is a difficult place for most people to locate themselves.

Understanding Trust

Trust is the bedrock of our relationship with God. What trust announces is that God will do what He says in His word He will do. Trust is not some mental construct, some kind of equation that we plug in. I want to emphasize that trust is the foundation on which everything in our relationship with God stands.

Trust is knowing and understanding God's character. This is why knowing the Word of God is so important. People who do not know the Word of God cannot know God's character for themselves; they can only know what someone has told them about God's character. This is good for those who are just beginning their walk with God. It creates a weak link in the spiritual chain of faith for those who have been in the faith for years. Trust is important when we surrender because trust makes it possible for us to rely on God. In those moments when we do not know the outcome, trust helps us to rely on God. The reason we can do this is because we have faith that God will do what He says and will act according to His nature.

Trust Announces Our Faithfulness in God

When we trust, we demonstrate this through our actions. Our behavior shows that we no longer worry about things that are out of our control. Things that used to pull us down spiritually no longer have the same effect on us, and if they do, it is no longer to the same degree they did in the past. When we say trust is not a mental construct, that means it is not some kind of intellectual idea that logically came to us. The trust that makes a difference in our lives is the trust we learn and acquire through our experiences with God.

We trust today because God brought us through some stuff yesterday. “If God had not been on my side, I never would have made it.”

The Nature of Trust

As I mentioned earlier, trust comes from personal experience. It comes from experiencing God’s faithfulness in our lives. It comes from being a witness to God’s power. It is remembering what God has done for you and continues to do for you.

However, before that trust existed, faith had to exist. Trust is built on top of faith. Faith tells us that God’s power is real, God’s goodness is real, and God loves us.

Faith is the initial step in our relationship with God. Hebrews 11:1 says “Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things unseen.” Faith is where our spiritual journey begins and where trust comes from.

The Relationship Between Faith and Trust

Faith provides the foundation, the belief that grows beyond intellectual agreement into a passion fueled by the knowledge of God’s word. Trust is the structure built on the foundation, built on intellectual curiosity. Trust that the Holy Spirit turned into a spark for God, that the Word of God set aflame upon hearing it. Trust grew with each event God brought you through. With each day, you see and realize that God made you and this day possible to exist to give Him glory.

As we live out our faith, trust grows, deepens, expands, and becomes stronger, creating an unimaginable relationship with God.

Blessings,
Pastor Gool