Trust & Give Thanks

### Game: Do trust falls?

### Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

### What does it Mean to trust in someone?

### Do you find it easy to trust in others? Your parents? Friends? God?

### Do you find it easy to trust in others?

### Does it matter what the cost is if everything goes wrong?

### it could cost you friends, health, money, …?

### Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

### This is one of my favorite passages! I say this verse all the time to remind me that I need to just let go and Trust what God is doing in my life. I can honestly say my Life has changed because of this verse. Not to say that I full trust God all the time no matter what the cost, like I should. I still have a long way to go In fully Trusting everything to God. It’s not easy?

### I am a worry person. What I mean by that is that I am always playing out different scenarios in my head of what could possibly go wrong and how I would / could Fix it. If you are a worrier you may know what I am talking about. I can literally get so occupied by trying to evaluate every possible outcome of different scenarios that I probably have work 10 times harder than if I just let the bad situation play out and fix it afterwards.

Psalm 118:5 Out of my distress I called on the Lord; the Lord answered me and set me free.

### I want to be free of all this worry and fear! I have found that there is a freedom you can experience when you are so caught up in worry to just “let go” and let it rest in God’s hands.

### Worrying will never stop the bad stuff from happening but it will stop you from enjoying the good stuff.

### Psalm 112:6-7 Surely the righteous will never be shaken; they will be remembered forever. They will have no fear of bad news; their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

### I want to be that guy: Never shaken, even in the face of bad news, Just trusting God through it all.

* The biggest mistake you can make in life is to be continually fearing you will make a mistake. It is a vicious cycle.

### To trust in the Lord means more than just believing in who he is and what he says; the word here for trust can also mean “to have confidence in.” To have confidence in something means you are certain about the truth of something or an assurance that leads to action. (I am confident so I can take action)

Everything we think we know should take second place to trusting God to guide you in every action you take.

When we lean on our own understanding, we trust our own limited knowledge and abilities to get us through all of life’s pitfalls, struggles and issue.

### [Psalm 118:8](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+118%3A8&version=ESV) It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man.

Trusting God requires

* believing that He loves you
* knowing that He’s good,
* Believing that He has the ability to help
* Desiring him to enter the situation
* Letting go of your control and giving him total control. (Not easy)

Christians are called believers, but many times, we are more like unbelieving believers. We trust our credit cards, the internet or our friends more than we trust God and His Word.

John 15:5 “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

Here we find Jesus saying that apart from Him, we can do nothing. We need to lean on Him for help with **everything** in our lives.

Sadly, many people go to church, hear that they need to Trust God then go home and try to do it all on their own. They usually end up desperately telling God how bad things are, nothing is going right, how hard they’re trying but the whole time they are leaving God out of every aspect and situation in their life.

Does this ring a bell at all? Have you ever been there?

God wants you to put Him first in your life. He wants you to put your confidence and trust in Him, all the time, in everything…. EVERYTHING

There was a man named George Muller that lived in the late 1800s early 1900s. George Müller was a Christian evangelist and the director of an orphanage. Early on he decided he would never ask for any money to support himself or his orphanages. He would just pray and trust God to deliver all their needs. Over his lifetime he cared for over 10,000 orphans and built 5 orphanages but never asked for a dime he just trusted Go. There were many times where they would have no food to feed the kids but they would sit down at the table and pray and food would show up at the door.

[Isaiah 12:2](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah+12%3A2&version=ESV) “Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the Lord God is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.”

***Trusting in the Bible***

In Exodus 16:11–26, the Lord provided manna from heaven for the Israelites while they wandered in the wilderness. Each morning more manna would appear, enough to feed over a million people. The people that gathered a lot of it did not have too much, and the people that gathered a little, did not have too little. They learned to work with God each day. God provided the manna for them each morning, but the Israelites had to go get it.

They were commanded not to keep extra manna overnight, or try and hoard what God had given them in this way they learned to Trust God every day. This pattern continued for forty years until Israel entered the promised land and ate the food there.

In 1 Kings 17, the prophet Elijah predicted a drought was coming on the land and there would be no dew or rain for 3 years. Then he went and lived by the Brook Cherith. The Lord commanded ravens to bring Elijah bread and meat each day, in the morning and in the evening and he drank water from the brook. Elijah was provided for daily until it became time for him to move on.

After the brook dried up, the Lord told Elijah that He had commanded a widow in Zarephath to provide for him. So Elijah went to Zarephath and found that the widow was starving herself. Elijah asked her for some water and a piece of bread, to which she said that she had no bread, just a handful of flour in a bowl and a little oil in a jar. She was preparing a last meal for her and her son and then they would die of starvation.

Elijah told her “Do not fear”, go and make the bread, but bring me some of it first. Wow, even before she fed herself or her son. Elijah said that the flour and oil would not run out until it rained, ending the three-year drought. That is a hard request during a time of famine when people are starving. Would God really ask a starving widow to give part of her last meal? Apparently so. Why? To teach her to trust Him. Her very life and the life of her son depended on it.

The widow did as Elijah asked and her bowl of flour did not run out, nor did the little jar of oil run dry. The Bible tells us that She, her household, and Elijah ate ‘for many days’. God did not provide two years of flour and oil for them all at once, but just what they needed to get them through each day.

Just as the manna fell each day, just as the ravens came each day and just as the flour and oil were refilled each day, God will provide just what we need each and every day.

There were many others who had to trust God

* Gideon had to trust God when he took 300 men up against an army of 135,000 Midianites
* David had to Trust God when he went up against a Giant
* Danial had to trust God when he was thrown into a den of hungry lions
* All the great people in the Bible where called to trust God

#### **Learning to Trust God**

* **Don’t worry about the things you cannot do– start doing the things you can and trust God for the rest**

When you accept Jesus Christ as your Savior, the Spirit of God comes to live inside you. He dwells in your heart and you can learn to hear His voice and to trust that God is leading you .

Isaiah 30:21Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, “This is the way; walk in it.”

IT is not always easy to let go and trust others. We will often say “they need to earn my trust”. Well God has proven over and over that He can be trusted. But you have to be willing to step out in Faith

**🡪If we want to see God move you need to take the first step in Faith**

The best way to hear God’s voice is by knowing what the Bible says. God’s Word gives us wisdom so we no longer just think the way the world thinks – we can think the way God thinks! Then we will come to know his voice.

There was a time when I decided to interview with a company just to test me interviewing Skills. I had just moved to a new position at my current company so I had no plan to leave. During the interview everything went perfectly. I surprised myself on how well I was answering the question. So well that they offered me an excellent position making more money than I was currently making.

I was nervous about taking the position so I asked God if He really wanted me to take the position then have them offer me more money. They did. The more I prayed the more God assured me it was the right move but I still turned it down. I was scared of change. Well the job I was in turned out to be a terrible fit for me and I went years without any advancement.

Moving forward 10 years I decided to trust God and take a Job no one wanted. Everyone told me it would be a horrible mistake to take it but I felt God calling me to apply. So I stepped out in Faith and I did. Yes I was scared but I trusted and it turned into an awesome assignment better than I ever dreamed of.

**🡪“Stop worrying about what can go wrong, and get excited about what can go right.”**

Trust Is Placing Your Confidence in God alone

*Proverbs 3:5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.*

To Trust Is to Acknowledge God in Everything

*Proverbs 3:6 In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.*

Trusting and seeking God in all circumstances doesn’t mean we will never have troubles. We can just look at the life of Paul after his conversion and see his life was full of troubles but he learned to trust God and find Joy in the good and the bad. What we can expect is that our journey will ultimately lead to him and we will not be shaken when trials come and when they do you will know just what to do.

Isaiah 43:2-3 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

It’s not that life no longer has difficulties, but that those difficulties are nothing to fear and that we can remain confident in God in the midst of them.

As we trust more in Jesus and have confidence to act on his will, we may have to turn down opportunities that seem great because Jesus has called us elsewhere, or accept callings that scare us. Acknowledging God in everything means that we remember that we can trust God in **every circumstance.** Knowing this will give us strength even through difficulties, pains, and fears, because we know that God will never leave our side.

Psalm 28:7 The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.

**Give Thanks**

### Lets look again at our Verse in proverbs

### Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

### Did you catch the second part of that verse?

### I like the way this verse says to acknowledge God. The word Acknowledge is defined in the Cambridge dictionary as: to accept, admit, and/or recognize something. So, It is not even a “thank you” at this point it is just recognizing, accepting and admitting that God has done something good for you when you asked him to and when you recognize his help before others it acks as a testimony to others of God’s grace and mercy.

### I believe this is the most forgotten part of trusting in God. We may get down on our Knees to beg and plead for God to provide an answer to our prayer and provide solutions to difficult situations we face but when the problem is over, we, more than often, forget to go back and thank God for providing the solution.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DthqrqqCtk8>

### I believe that many people forget to thank God because the answer seemed way to easy. They expect God to give big extravagant solution but when we find the easy solution, we tend to think it wasn’t God. Other times when the issue is over, we just get caught up in the moment and move onto the next problem. But we really need to remember to Acknowledge God no matter what the solution was.

Psalm 100:1-5 Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. **Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! For the Lord is good**; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

### IF you were to help someone over and over and they never say a word of thanks or even recognize that you help out. How likely is it that you will continue helping? Why do you think that is? When you help someone out doesn’t it feel good when they take the time to thank you? Why? (Shows appreciation, shows we recognize the effort, It shows we value the person)

### For all the same reasons we need to remember to thank God when he comes through for us.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

### This is one reason I have told you I started recording all my significant prayers in a Journal so I wouldn’t forget to give God that appreciation. So I often go back and check if there is something I have not given him thanks for! Or at least acknowledged that he came through.

Colossians 3:17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Psalm 107:1 Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

Philippians 4:6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.