

ONE FROM THE HEART

Trust in All Circumstances

What does it look like to trust God in all circumstances? The ups and downs of life, the risks we take at work and home. To trust God with our resources and our time. Our hopes and our dreams. Can we have faith in God and yet still not have trust.

Trusting God in all circumstances does not always look like getting what we want.

The story of Joseph - Genesis 37-46

- + The most beloved son of his father
- + The most hated brother
- + Sold into slavery
- + Betrayed and sent to prison
- + Blessed by God

Joseph's individual circumstances do not read like a blessed life and yet in almost every chapter we read about him we read that he was blessed by God. Whether in slavery or in prison Joseph still sought to bring God glory and honour.

Who is in control?

Our desire to control our life is in contrast with the knowledge that we should trust God with our life.

Joseph was the best son, he gets sold. He is the best slave, blessed by God, he is still betrayed. He is the best prisoner, once again blessed by God, he is still in prison. God Blesses him but that still looks like being in prison.

Unbridled love

God has all that we need. When we take control and don't trust God we take ourselves away from all that God can provide, because we start to rely on ourselves. Often that can start to look like sin.

But God is good and He has good plans for you no matter what you are facing.

LAMENTATIONS 3:22-25

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him." The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him;

Intimacy = Trust

- + Prayer
- + Worship
- + Read Scripture

Joseph always trusted that God knew what he was doing.

We cannot allow our circumstances to determine how much we trust God. We need to trust God in our circumstances, and it will determine how we feel about them.

GENESIS 50:20

You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you trust God?
2. Do you believe you can have faith without trust? Why?
3. What from Joseph's story stands out to you?
4. Do you think Joseph doubted God?
5. What does Unbridled faith look like for you?
6. What does control look like for you?
7. Why do you think we try to take control back from God?
8. What can you hand over to God this week? Do you think you would have a testimony to share next week if you put your trust in God?
9. Is there any testimony you can share of times you have given control back to God and seen breakthrough?
10. What will build intimacy for you?