

25 Days of Going Deeper – Week 2: Trust (Psalm 25:2)

May 5, 2025: Monday – Trusting God’s Character

Scripture: Proverbs 3:5-6 (NLT) *“Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.”*

Reflection: Our decision to trust someone often depends on how well we know them and their character. In the case of God, Scripture is clear and leaves no room for doubt—*He is loving, compassionate, gracious, kind, merciful, and faithful*. God’s love is not just an attribute; it is the essence of who He is. 1 John 3:8 tells us that *“God is love”* and this love is one of action when people need it most- *“God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through Him”* (1 John 4:9). This same love reaches out to us even in times when we have strayed far from our Lord. *“But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners”* (Romans 5:8). Like the father in the story of the prodigal son, God watches and waits for our return with open arms. His mercies are present every morning and His forgiveness is always available (1 John 1:9). If God loves us unconditionally even during what might seem to be the worst of times, how much more should we be able to trust Him to care for us now and to show us the way?

Trusting God means acknowledging who He is—His nature, His goodness, and His unchanging heart. When we seek Him and trust His character, *“He will show [us] which path to take”* (Proverbs 3:6). He is present even in the darkest places, and His faithful love brings light and hope. As Psalm 139:11–12 (NLT) describes *“I could ask the darkness to hide me and the light around me to become night— but even in darkness I cannot hide from you. To you the night shines as bright as day. Darkness and light are the same to you.”* The more we reflect on His character, the more our hearts can rest in the arms of our Everlasting Father.

Challenge & Next Steps: Today, take time to praise God for who He is and to be thankful for His faithfulness.

Prayer: Father, today I choose to trust in who You are! Help me to rest in Your character even when I’m uncertain or afraid. Remind me that You never change, and You are always near. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

Worship Song: Goodness of God – Bethel Music

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May 6, 2025: Tuesday – Trusting in Uncertain Times

Scripture:

Isaiah 26:3–4 (NLT) – “You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you! Trust in the Lord always, for the Lord God is the eternal Rock.”

John 14:27 (NLT) – “I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don’t be troubled or afraid.”

Reflection:

Perhaps now more than ever, the world feels uncertain. Nations that were once close allies seem to be drifting apart. Relationships between neighbouring countries are shifting, and the ground beneath our feet at times may feel unstable. The things we’ve relied on for security—our resources, employment, homes, and even relationships can suddenly seem fragile. In response, anxiety rises, and we often take actions to regain a sense of control, and yet, our efforts often fall short without bringing lasting peace or calm to our fears. It is during these moments that we are reminded to lift our eyes beyond the confusion and chaos of this world, to fix our thoughts on the One whose plans never fail, whose understanding is infinite, and whose presence is constant. “You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you!” (Isaiah 26:3). God is not shaken. He is our *Eternal Rock*, our unmovable foundation, even when the world feels like it's shifting beneath us. Jesus promises something the world cannot give, *peace of mind and heart* (John 14:27). This peace isn't based on perfect circumstances; it is a gift from God to all who receive Him and trust in Him. It transcends the news of the day, and reports of uncertainty and instability. His peace calms our inner storms.

Challenge & Next Steps: Today, take time to step away from the noise of current events and picture yourself sheltered in the cleft of the rock, as described in Psalm 18:2, a place of refuge, security, and comfort in the midst of turbulent winds. That Rock is our Cornerstone, Jesus. Our Lord reigns over every storm, and He holds all things together even when everything else may seem to be in turmoil.

Prayer: Lord, in a world full of change and uncertainty, I anchor my heart in You. Be my Rock, my Refuge, and my Peace. Reign over the storms within and around me. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

Worship Song: Peace Be Still – The Belonging Co / Lauren Daigle

25 Days of Going Deeper – Week 2: Trust (Psalm 25:3)**May 7, 2025: Wednesday – Trusting in God's Timing****Scripture:**

Ecclesiastes 3:11 (NLT) – *“Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time. He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God’s work from beginning to end.”* ; **Psalm 42:11 (NLT)** – *“Why am I discouraged? Why is my heart so sad? I will put my hope in God! I will praise him again—my Savior and my God!”*

Reflection:

When we make plans and see the details fall into place, we feel a sense of satisfaction. We appreciate the benefits of being prepared and anticipating change. However, there are times when things don’t come together or when our circumstances shift unexpectedly in ways that feel impossible or deeply discouraging. In these moments, we may feel powerless to bring about positive change. We cry out to God, “Where are You, Lord? If only You had come sooner...” Our idea of “too late” is not always aligned with God’s view of the right time. His timing stretches us, especially when He seems silent or slow to act. And yet, Ecclesiastes reminds us, *“God has made everything beautiful for its own time.”* His timing is never rushed, nor is it haphazard or random. He is always on time, working all things together for the good of those who love Him (Romans 8:28). Think about Mary and Martha in John 11, waiting for Jesus to come and heal their brother, Lazarus. From their perspective, He was late, but Jesus arrived in His perfect time, not only to raise Lazarus from the dead but also to breathe life and hope into a community weighed down by grief. Sometimes in our waiting, we feel forgotten, but then God shows up in ways that leave us in awe, and we respond by glorifying His name.

Challenge & Next Steps: Even in difficult circumstances, when there seems to be no way forward, perhaps the best response is worship. As Psalm 42:11 encourages us, *“Why am I discouraged? Why is my heart so sad? I will put my hope in God! I will praise him again.”* Praising God in the waiting expresses our trust in His perfect timing. Let our hearts be lifted by the hope found in God’s timing.

Prayer: Father, I trust that You make all things beautiful in Your time. Help me to rest in this truth and to praise You while I wait. Strengthen my faith and fill me with hope. In Jesus’ name, Amen

Worship Song: Take Courage – Kristene DiMarco / Bethel Music

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May 8, 2025: Thursday - Trusting in God's Strength

Scripture:

2 Corinthians 12:9 (NLT) – *“Each time he said, ‘My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness.’ So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me.”*

Psalm 121:1–3 (NLT) – *“I look up to the mountains—does my help come from there? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth! He will not let you stumble; the one who watches over you will not slumber.”*

Reflection:

I sometimes look back on past seasons, especially those that were difficult or painful. These were often times of loss when loved ones were taken seemingly too soon, times when a child departed down unsafe paths, or moments when my own choices led to regret or revealed my inadequacies. In those moments, I've asked, *“How did I get here? And how will I ever move forward?”* Even when the direction forward is clear, I sometimes feel immobilized, my strength depleted, wishing for someone or something to lighten my burden.

It is in those moments I remember that Jesus already carried the greatest burden, my sin and the sins of the world. He went to the cross, sacrificing everything out of love to redeem me and all who believe in Him. It was not because of anything I did or could ever do- it was because of His grace. Today's verse reminds us that *God's grace is all we need. His power works best in weakness.* Think about Peter who denied Jesus in fear and ran away like many others during Jesus' darkest hour. In his own strength, Peter couldn't grasp what God was doing, but Peter also received grace. He was restored by Jesus and empowered by the Holy Spirit. After the resurrection, this same man stood before the crowds in Jerusalem boldly proclaiming the gospel of Jesus. That day three thousand people believed and were saved by God's grace and the power of the Spirit working through Peter.

Challenge & Next Steps: Psalm 121 tells us *Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth, and He will not let us stumble or fall.* Today, reach out to Jesus. He will give you the grace and power you need for this very day.

Prayer: Fill me with Your grace and power today, Lord. Carry me in times of weakness and adversity. I put my trust in You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Worship Song: Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me – CityAlight

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May 9, 2025: Friday - Trusting in God's Strength

May 9, 2025: Friday – Trust Expressed Through Obedience

Scripture:

John 14:23 (NLT) – *“Jesus replied, ‘All who love me will do what I say. My Father will love them, and we will come and make our home with each of them.’”*

James 2:22 (NLT) – *“You see, his faith and his actions worked together. His actions made his faith complete.”*

Reflection:

Trust isn't just a thought, an idea, or a frame of mind. It is something that we express in the way we live. Trust, in its truest sense, is expressed through obedience and following Jesus. As Jesus said in John 14:23, *“All who love me will do what I say.”* Obedience to God involves taking up our cross and following Him daily, as Jesus declared in Luke 9:23. In this obedience, our inward trust in God becomes visible. It is the outward expression of our faith. Abraham trusted God so deeply that he was willing to leave everything familiar and go to a place he had never seen before. He held fast to God's promises even when the plan was not completely clear. As James 2:22 reminds us, *“His faith and his actions worked together. His actions made his faith complete.”*

Obedience doesn't mean we always feel courageous or ready. In contrast, it underscores our belief that God is good, that He has a plan for us, and that He cares for us deeply. Obedience involves doing what God instructs in His Word and responding in faith, especially in difficult situations. Trusting Him may mean showing love to someone who disregards us, being generous to someone who has taken from us, or showing kindness when we've been treated unfairly. As the old familiar hymn says, *“Trust and obey, for there's no other way to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.”* In every act of obedience, we affirm our trust that God is with us and working through us.

Challenge & Next Steps: As we end this week reflecting on trust, ask yourself: *Where is God calling me to respond in obedience?* Don't delay, respond with immediacy to follow and trust Jesus with the outcomes of each moment as you move forward in faith.

Prayer: Lord, I want my life to show that I trust You. Help me to respond in obedience, even when it's hard. I know that as I follow You, You are with me, leading me each step of the way. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Worship Song: I Will Follow – Chris Tomlin