

CIRCLE OF TRUST

Video clip – circle of trust

Each of us have our own circle of trust and God also has a circle of trust

Picture of child trusting father to catch after being thrown into air - and the child is receiving joy in the process- I often do this to my nieces 3yr old daughter and I know my niece would prefer not to watch but trusts me with her. Same for when I take her down to the beach and into the sea and waves. The only way this trust has been possible is through building a relationship and showing you are trustworthy. Child has blind faith and trust, knowing their father will catch them and not let the fall.

The same is true for Gods circle of trust. When we accept Jesus into our lives, we enter Gods circle of trust – as we build a relationship with Him, He reveals what He has entrusted to us – we have been trusted to share Gods love to all people, lead them to salvation, we have been trusted to heal people, we have been trusted to prophecy over people, we have been trusted to encourage, etc And we know our father will not let us down, He is there to throw us and catch us. When we sin or don't get it right for God, do you think we leave Gods circle?

This morning I would like to talk about building faith and relationships through - what trust is, how to gain or regain trust and specifically deal with the things we are trusting God for and how to effectively be in Gods circle of trust.

Definition (Oxford)

- **Firm belief in the reliability, truth, or ability of someone or something:**
- **Acceptance of the truth of a statement without evidence or investigation:**
- **Allow someone to have, use, or look after (someone or something of importance or value) with confidence**

Synonyms: confidence, belief, faith, freedom from suspicion/doubt, sureness, certainty, certitude, assurance, conviction, credence, reliance

Reasons why we don't trust

- **unbelief**
- **lack of faith**
- **lack of confidence**
- **hurt from people**
- **lies causing lack of freedom/ bondage**

Have you ever had a problem with

- **trusting people - friends, family, wife, husband, church, work colleges or bosses**
- **trusting God**

- or have you been let down by people, church that has affected your trust?

I know of a few people that have given up on Christianity because they have been let down by people they trusted and feel God abandoned them.

Stories of trust

My trusting God has been tested in many ways

- Tanzania mission (trust tested and overcame through total rest in God) - planned for conducting encounter 1 and encounter 4, however we were given a super hectic programme with the plan of visiting and connecting with almost 1000 students in the week. We had to adjust our plan to fit the programme. This challenged the businessman inside of me. The first session we conducted part of encounter 1, then realised this wasn't what God had planned for the week. On route to the second session, I was searching God for what we need to be doing and He revealed to me that we should focus on words of knowledge and prophecy at the next varsity campus. We also arrived late because I felt God wanting us to pray for this guy with cerebral palsy at a shopping centre – so when we arrived, the team didn't really know what we were doing and asked them to pray for words of Knowledge and prophecy, was trying to be sensitive to the Holy Spirits leading – also felt the need for the people there to pray in small groups for the boy we just prayed for – ended up an awesome night of spot on words, ministry.

Sunday afternoon we were supposed to go with a student ministry team and assist with door to door evangelism – myself and the team were not so keen on this and after prayer, I felt we needed to teach the ministry team on how words of knowledge can be a way of showing Gods power – after much opposition from the ministry team and the fact that I insisted and was telling them this is what God is wanting, they accepted and things happened – even me getting it wrong, but the teaching was successful as well as some first time salvations, etc. The rest of the week carried on like – like pinky and the brain - what are we going to do today - rule the world!!!"

We visited a medical campus and 3 team members shared linking medical issues to Christianity, next 2 evenings we were led to focus on authentic Christianity and being spirit led, Thursday went to the transport campus and driving to the campus I was stressing a bit because I didn't know what we were going to do - 5 minutes before starting the asked what are we doing and I indicated I was still waiting on God and will go with whatever He directs – He then told me we need to talk about healing - myself, and 2 other team members shared some verses and testimonies on healing and during ministry time about 40 or so people came forward for prayer – many healings including ear(james), toe, stomach, etc straight from this campus we had to go to another on and again arrived late and even had to wait during worship to get the download on what we were going to do – focus on the power of testimony – again awesome outcome.

- Personal healing (eye) (trust tested and faith has not waivered)- still trusting God for healing

- Family (started with lots of faith and trust, then became despondent, angry, lost joy, lost hope, hardened heart, depression, drifting away from God- overcame through decision to get close to God again, healing of heart, restoration of hope and trust in God and His eternal plan, still working on full restoration of joy)

- Work / finances- trust tested with finances- tithing, then starting of own business and continues everyday. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. Honor the Lord with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of all your increase; So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine. (Proverbs 3:5, 6, 9, 10 NKJV)
- cultivating supernatural- words of knowledge and prophecy
- dad salvation and healing
- trusting God in my own salvation and spiritual growth- filled with the spirit
- protection- physical and spiritual...

Look at stories in the bible where people have trusted or not trusted God:

- Noah - trust
- Abraham – trust
- Saul – not trust
- Job - trust
- Israel – numerous occasions not trust – ended up in wilderness, exile or captive as slaves
- Jesus – ultimate trust in Gods eternal plan
- Disciples/ Apostles – trusted in Jesus’s words and leading of the Holy spirit

How to regain trust

- **definition of faith**- Hebrews 11:1 NKJV "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." **require firm belief**- know that I know that I know....

- **from the definition of trust we need to accept the truth I.e. Accept the word of God- Therefore if the Son sets you free, you shall be free indeed John 8:36**
 - once you have the faith and trust in God first, then seek His direction and guidance, get your confidence from your identity in Him

“The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, Because the Lord has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the broken hearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn, To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified.” (Isaiah 61:1-3 NKJV)

But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; (I Peter 2:9 NKJV)

- be prepared to step out the boat (vs...) be willing to try even if you get it wrong- words of knowledge, prophecy, healing- this is help build up confidence
 I did this so you would trust not in human wisdom but in the power of God. (1 Corinthians 2:5 NLT)

- **celebrate others victories**- it's all Gods victories anyway
- **forgiveness** (yourself, others) and not easy to take offense

**- recognize lies and bind them before they become part of your identity - take captive every thought (vs...) For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, (II Corinthians 10:4, 5 NKJV)
And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. (Romans 12:2 NKJV)**

Words of oceans by Hillsongs listen song?

Bridge:

Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders

Let me walk upon the waters

Wherever You would call me

Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander

And my faith will be made stronger

In the presence of my Savior x 7