

WEEK 2 - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21

MESSAGE NOTES

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PART 2 - “TRUST”

MAIN IDEA FOR THOUGHT: God is asking us to trust him so that he can take us to places he wants us to go—in our faith and in our generosity. What is preventing you from placing complete trust in God?

OPENING DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why is it difficult to trust people? Why might we have trust issues?
2. When was a time when you trusted someone and it turned out for the positive?
3. What makes placing your trust in a person wise?

DISCUSSION GUIDE



A. GOD CALLS US TO THINGS WE CANNOT YET SEE.

| READ GENESIS 12:1-3

God called Abraham to a life he could not yet see—to a path that was not yet known. God was asking Abraham to trust him. Have you given God a “blank check” with your life? Do you allow him to do with your life what he wishes to do? Or do you wait to move until you can see the entire path?

To what do you look to ensure that your path tomorrow will be ok? Family? Friends? Money? Your career? Your talents and abilities? What do you look to for security for the present and for the future?

Are these things preventing you from truly being able to trust God and follow where he leads? How so?

B. GOD ASKS US TO TRUST HIM SO THAT WE PUT OUR FAITH IN HIM, NOT IN OUR OWN ABILITIES.

| READ GENESIS 22:2-18

Abraham had faith in God because of what he knew to be true about God. He knew and trusted in the fact that God would somehow provide, even though Abraham couldn't understand how. What is preventing you from trusting in God and in his purpose for your life? What is preventing you from being fully committed to him and trusting him with something he is asking you to do?

C. STOP SETTING YOUR MIND ON THE THINGS OF EARTH.

| READ COLOSSIANS 3:1-4

Look at verse 3: For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. Are you truly living in light of this truth?

Do you live as if you have already died and your life is in heaven? Or is your mind elsewhere and set down below on earthly things? How is this evidenced in your life, either for the positive or for the negative?

D. GOD DOES NOT WANT GENEROSITY FROM US. HE WANTS IT FOR US.

| READ 1 TIMOTHY 6:17-19

The 2nd Stage initiative is the largest step of faith we have taken since Hope began. It is going to change our church in many ways. What would it mean for your generosity if you truly had a full view in mind of what it looks like to fully trust in God and what giving generously in light of that actually means? Have you ever experienced this? Do you feel that you have already “arrived” in this area, or do you still have room to grow?

What would it look like for your story of generosity to create a witness that honors and draws more people to him during this 2nd Stage season?
