

COGA NEWS



WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

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What Does It Really Mean to Trust God?

Bishop Cecil Reid

Psalm 37:5 Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

We often say, "I trust God."

We say it when things are going well. We say it when we're encouraging someone else. We say it because we know it's the right thing to say.

But what does trusting God really look like when life doesn't go according to plan?

Trust becomes much more than a statement when the answer hasn't come, the door hasn't opened, the situation hasn't changed, or the future isn't clear.

It's easy to trust God when we can see the outcome. The real challenge comes when we're walking through a season where we can't see what is ahead.

Proverbs 3:5 reminds us, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding."

Notice that Scripture doesn't tell us to trust God only when everything makes sense. In fact, the instruction not to lean on our own understanding acknowledges that there will be times when we don't understand. And that's where trust begins.

Trusting God doesn't mean we won't have questions. It

doesn't mean we won't become discouraged. It doesn't mean we won't cry, worry, or wonder how everything is going to work out.

So, What Does Trust Mean?

- **It means that even when we don't understand, we choose not to believe that God has abandoned us.**
- **Sometimes trusting God means waiting.**
- **Sometimes it means moving forward even though we don't have all the answers.**
- **Sometimes it means accepting that the door we desperately wanted opened may not be the door God intended for us.**
- **And sometimes it means releasing our need to control every detail.**

That last one can be particularly difficult.

We want to know when, how, where, and why. We want the complete plan before we're willing to take the next step. But God often gives us enough light for the step we're standing on rather than the entire road ahead.

Faith says, "I may not know what is coming next, but I know who is with me."

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There will be seasons when trusting God feels easy and seasons when it feels like a daily decision.

During those difficult seasons, remind yourself of what God has already brought you through. Look back at the prayers He has answered, the doors He has opened, the strength He has provided, and the times you thought you wouldn't make it—but somehow you did.

Your current situation may be uncertain, but God's faithfulness is not.

So keep praying. Keep believing. Keep moving forward.

You don't have to understand everything to trust God. You simply have to believe that He is worthy of your trust—*even when you can't yet see what He's doing.*



UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

- 9th – 13th > Southern District Convention

NOVEMBER

- 26th > Thanksgiving

Find more information on www.cogainc.org



A LITTLE SOMETHING TO LAUGH ABOUT

- October is proof that even the trees know when it's time to let things go.
- October reminder: If you can't find your keys, glasses, or phone... pray first. Then check the refrigerator. You'd be surprised.
- Church parking lot rule: The closer you park to the door, the more likely someone will ask you to help carry something.
- If you're cold in church, move closer to the heater. If you're still cold, sit next to someone who says, "I always run hot."
- Fall leaves are like church announcements: There are always more than you expected.
- Fall is God's reminder that change can be beautiful. Even when things are falling apart—or falling down—God can still bring beauty out of the season.
- October has two kinds of people: Those who love pumpkin spice and those who are tired of hearing about pumpkin spice.
- Fall leaves may be falling, temperatures may be dropping, and the days may be getting shorter...But God's faithfulness hasn't changed one bit.
- Don't let the changing season make you forget the unchanging God.

October

