



S E R M O N G U I D E

I'm Putting My Trust In God

Psalm 11:1-7

INTRODUCTION

Everything we do is predicated on trust. Stephen Covey said, "Trust is the glue of life. It's the most essential ingredient in effective communication. It's the foundational principle that holds all relationships." Trust is so central to the moral arc of the universe that Scripture is replete with aphorisms and admonitions about it. Proverbs 3:5 famously says, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not unto your own understanding." Psalm 56:3 says, "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you, God whose word I praise. In God I will trust, I will not be afraid." Trust is the glue of life, and that glue is what sticks us to God. We must trust Him. Without that trust, we have nothing to hope for and nothing to believe in. As we soak in that truth, let's look at three steps we must take if we're going to fully put our trust in God.

KEY POINTS

1. Ignore Bad Advice

In Psalm 11, David is afraid of Saul, and his friends give him some well-intended yet bad advice to flee from Saul instead of trusting in God. David had often run from the adversity of Saul and hid in the mountains, but David understands now that he cannot allow his present opposition to keep him from his future opportunity.

Like David, we must ask as we embark on our next chapter whether we will put our trust in God. If we want to follow God and place our faith and trust in Him, we are going to have to ignore bad advice. In verse 1, the psalmist asks, "how can you say to me, 'Flee like a bird to the mountains?'" What David is referring to is how his friends had advised him to handle his dilemma by running away.

Apparently, they told David, "Flee as a bird to the mountains." This advice was perhaps well-intended, but it was not timely, nor was it what David needed. If David ran away, he would miss out on a key opportunity. He would miss out on the chance to trust God in a trial and in the process, be developed and strengthened for what is coming next.

NOTES

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2. Don’t Run From Storms

If you want to pursue the destiny God has designed for you, it is going to involve challenges, trials, and storms. And the key is not to run from those storms but to embrace them head-on. By running away and not facing life’s storms, it prevents us from developing the skills, the insights, and the spiritual muscles that God wants us to have.

Think about it. Storm chasers are individuals whose objective isn’t to run from a storm but to run into a storm, and their goal is to gain valuable insight and information that will equip the public on the best ways to withstand storms in the future. Not if they happen, but when they happen. They cannot learn from it if they keep running away from it.

And conversely, we cannot learn if we keep running away from our storms either. You will never learn how to fight by running from a fight. You will never learn the lesson of forgiveness running away from those you need to forgive. You will never learn the lesson of endurance giving up on every hard challenge and every difficult obstacle. That is why one of the fruits of the spirit is long-suffering.

3. Stand Your Ground

You might be wondering why God has not allowed you to circumvent your current crisis. Why won’t He deliver you from your current storm? The answer is simple: God wants to use your present predicament as a part of the core curriculum for your future success. He wants you to learn what David discovered, that you cannot always run from the challenge in front of you because sometimes the challenge in front of you has been designed and positioned to get you to your promise.

Don’t run from this challenge of faith. Stand your ground and hold on to your faith. Remind yourself He that has begun a good work in you and will perform it until the day of Christ Jesus. Keep trusting in God and tell yourself that no weapon formed against you will prosper. Look your troubles in the face and declare like the psalmist, “I’ve been young and now old, and I have never seen the righteous forsaken...”

In your walk with God, He allows you to be tested so that you can learn what it is that He has for you. Understand this framework, and know that when you are tested, it is for your personal growth and your ultimate purpose!

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. What is some bad advice you've received and taken that you probably should have ignored? What did you learn from that situation?
2. Have you ever tried to run from a storm before instead of sticking it out? If so, how did that turn out?
3. What is something you feel like God is trying to teach you right now in the midst of the difficulties you're walking through?
