



Sermon Series: Real Faith for Real Life
Sermon Title: Trusting God with Your Future
Date: 9/20/2026

Big Idea: Trust the Lord for your future in ways you never have before.

The Hebrew word for trust - batach - is not a feeling. It is an action. It is the confidence you demonstrate because you are sure of the outcome. It is being so certain of the one you are leaning on that worry loosens its grip.

This series is built on that kind of trust - real faith for real life. And today's question is direct: do you actually trust God with your future? There are at least three seasons where that trust is tested most severely: seasons of uncertainty, seasons of trouble, and seasons of waiting.

Trust During Seasons of Uncertainty

Proverbs 3:5-8 is one of the most quoted passages in Scripture, but verse 7 does not get nearly enough attention: **be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil. It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones.** Twice in this short passage Solomon challenges us to be suspicious of our own wisdom. That is not an accident.

Our own understanding feels reliable - it is all we have access to. But God sees the whole road. Trusting in the Lord with all your heart means releasing the grip on your own plan and acknowledging him in every direction you turn. Uncertainty is hard because we are not omniscient. God is. Often following the Lord looks foolish to the world. But God is not your assistant for the future. He is the author of it.

Trust During Seasons of Trouble

Jeremiah 29:11 is one of the most beloved verses in the Bible - but the context changes everything. God spoke those words to people in the middle of a seventy-year exile in Babylon. He was not promising immediate rescue. He was promising that His rescue plan was already drawn up and already in motion. **For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord,**

plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. What He says will come true - but His timeline is not ours.

Trouble has the power to make us forget the promises of God. But it also has the power to drive us back to them. Verse 13 is worth sitting with: **you will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.** Do you believe God's promised future is better than your immediate comfort? That is the question trouble puts in front of every believer.

Trust During Seasons of Waiting

Psalm 37:7 gives us a recipe that cuts against everything in us: be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him. Stillness. Patience. Contentment - not anxiously watching what others have or what others are doing. Waiting is hard because it requires us to do nothing while feeling like everything depends on us doing something. But waiting is not passivity. It is active dependence.

Abraham waited twenty-five years for the son God had promised him. Sarah was ninety when Isaac was born. The name Isaac means he laughs - reflecting both the disbelief at the start and the joy at the end of a quarter-century of waiting. God was not slow. He was working on a timeline measured against eternity. **2 Peter 3:9** reminds us the Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness - he is patient, and his purposes are always moving forward. Your future is held by Christ. Be still before the Lord, and see what he has planned.

Discussion Questions

1. The Hebrew word for trust - batach - means acting with confident dependence, free from worry. On that definition, where in your life are you currently trusting God, and where are you still trusting yourself?
2. Proverbs 3:7 warns us not to be wise in our own eyes. Why is our own understanding so hard to release, even when we genuinely believe God knows better? What does that reveal about where our trust actually sits?
3. Jeremiah 29:11 was spoken to people in the middle of a seventy-year exile - not at the end of it. How does that context change the way you hear that promise? Is there a situation in your life where God may be saying the same thing right now?
4. Psalm 37:7 calls us to be still and wait patiently. What makes waiting so difficult, and what do you think God is trying to produce in us during seasons when He asks us to do nothing but depend on Him?
5. Abraham waited twenty-five years for the promise God made him. What does his story say about how God measures time differently than we do - and how does that reframe a situation in your life where you feel like God is slow or silent?