

Testify.

Week # 5 : Tim Novak & Bill Thurston : MANUP.co

***“Let the redeemed of
the Lord tell their Story.”***

Psalm 107:2

Tim Novak.

“Father Knows Best.”

Matthew 6:8

Jesus said, *“Therefore, do not be like them, for your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask him.”*

Q: Who are you listening to?

**1. God KNOWS BETTER than me
about WHAT I NEED.**

Jeremiah 29:11

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

• **Get IN - ALL IN!**

Matthew 22:37

Jesus said to him, *“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind.”*

2. God LOVES ME.

John 16:27

Jesus said, *“For the Father Himself loves you because you have loved Me, and have believed that I came forth from God.”*

Romans 8:38

Paul said, *“For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

- **Get REAL.**

“As I grow older I pay less attention to what men say. I just watch what they do.” - Andrew Carnegie

3. I can TRUST Him.

Philippians 2:7-8

He made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

- **Get BOLD.**

To Be the Example:

- > He acted with INTEGRITY.
- > He acted with a SELFLESS MOTIVE.
- > He acted with NOBLE INTENT.

Philippians 3:17-20

Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have for us a pattern. For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ; whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is their shame- who set their minds on earthly things. For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philippians 3:12-14

Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Our HEAVENLY FATHER Knows Best.

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Q: What part of Tim's story inspired you?

Q: What part of Tim's story challenged you?

Bill Thurston.

“My Journey from Pretending to Trusting.”

Pretend Normal. (34 years)

- I was created in the “Image of God” - but I had spent my whole life creating “My Own Image”
- I was filled with confusion, doubt, shame, & guilt.

Romans 7

²⁴ Paul writes, “Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death?”

²⁵ Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord.”

My Encounter with God. (July 1998)

- I came to “The End” of everything . . . but God had a different ending.
- I realized that I wasn’t a “Good Guy” with small problems . . . I was a “Sinner” that deserved death.
- MERCY = anything short of death.

Romans 6

²³ The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 5

⁶ When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners.

⁸ God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.

- **I REPENTED** - cried out to God in brokenness and honesty. No more pretending. No more hiding.

Trusting God. (20 Years Ago)

- For the first time in my life I stopped trusting in “Bill” and started trusting in **GOD**.

Galatians 1

³ May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace. ⁴ Jesus gave his life for our sins, just as God our Father planned, in order to rescue us from this evil world in which we live. ⁵ All glory to God forever and ever!

- I was learning to be “Honest” with God and “Trust” him for my protection and salvation.

Psalms 91

¹ Those who live in the shelter of the Most high will find rest in the shadow of the Almighty. ² This I declare about the Lord: He alone is my refuge, my place of safety; he is my God, and I trust in him. ³ For he will rescue you from every trap and protect you from deadly disease. ⁴ He will cover you with his feathers. He will shelter you with his wings. His faithful promises are your armor and protection.

- But my journey couldn't stop with God alone! I had hurt my friends, my family, and my wife.
- It was time to stop “Pretending” and start “Trusting.”

Trusting Others. (October 15, 1998)

- I sat in a counselors office and told my wife things that no man should ever have to tell his wife.
- Events from my childhood that had hurt me and shaped me. They weren't an excuse . . . but they helped me understand the man I had become.

- Healing starts with **CONFESSION**.

James 5

¹⁶ Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.

- Sanctification isn't an event - it's a **PROCESS**.
- But the hardest part was still to come . . .
How could God ever use a "Screw-Up" like me?

Trusting Myself. (Everyday Process)

- God wanted my "Old Life" to end and my "New Life" to begin.

2 Corinthians 5

¹⁵ Christ died for everyone so that those who receive his new life will no longer live for themselves. Instead, they will live for Christ, who died and was raised for them.

¹⁷ Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

- My Personal Mission is . . .
"Replacing Generational Sin."

What has God called YOU to do?

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Q: What part of Bill's story inspired you?

Q: What part of Bill's story challenged you?