

Relationship Skill #2: Trust (May 28, 2026)

“Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.” (1 Cor. 4:2)

One of the most important qualities to any relationship or service is faithfulness.

Another word for faithful is “trustworthy.” It is required that stewards be trustworthy.

We have identified the second key relationship skill as the ability to build, maintain, and restore trust even when under pressure. After commitment, trust is necessary to high functioning teams.

My basic definition of trust has served me well in life. I have defined trust as simply doing what you said you would do. But Henry Cloud reduces trust to 5 essential components, and I have found his definitions very helpful for identifying where trust is strong and where it needs improvement.

Dr. Cloud says trust must be:

1. **Understanding.** The more understanding that is present, the deeper the trust can go.
2. **For the benefit of both people.** Selfishness obviously ruins trust.
3. **Able.** Good intentions are dangerous if they cause you to trust someone to do what they have no ability to accomplish.
4. **Character driven.** All the skill in the world cannot be trusted when a person’s character cannot stand up to the pressure of the circumstances where the skill is needed the most.
5. **Proven.** A person’s track record will let you know how much you can trust them.

Evaluate your close relationships and ministry teams to see how you can build more trust.

It is the basis of any successful venture where 2 or more people are involved.