

## IN GOD WE TRUST

Put your complete faith and trust in God, whether or not you understand all of His words and ways.

### KEY POINTS

- ▶ There is a very important lesson many of us teach and/or were taught: always put your trust in God and God alone.
- ▶ It is such a simple statement, and yet, so profound. No matter who or what we are, where we've been or what we've done—we need to say with a full assurance of faith, "In God We Trust." He is our Father. We trust Him.
- ▶ Let us apply this teaching to a very top-of-mind issue in our society today.
- ▶ In an October 2017 edition of "Christianity Today", Rachel Gilson described her conversion to Christianity as a woman dealing with same-gender sexual attraction.
- ▶ One of the most powerful points she makes is that she follows Jesus and obeys His word based upon her complete trust in Him. She does not serve Him because He has changed her sexual orientation, made her desire for women go away, answered all her questions, or given her a stress-free life. She says: "In the end, it came down to trust. I knew Jesus was worthy of trust, because He had made the greater sacrifice...."
- ▶ As children grow and observe all that a parent does, the sacrifices they make, and their faithful commitment to them, it should cause them to love, honour, obey, respect and trust their parents more each day.
- ▶ These characteristics also describe our heavenly Father—the perfect parent. Our trust in Him should be complete and unquestioned. He has earned it.
- ▶ To those who are dealing with one or more aspects of the LGBTQ variations in human sexuality present in our world today, we understand that these issues are real.
- ▶ We know that it is a struggle to reconcile your makeup and desires with the Word of God. We know that there are no simple answers. Things don't change just because someone reads a couple of Bible verses to you.
- ▶ We understand the need each and every one of us has to be filled with the power of the Holy Spirit so we can "live the way He wants us to live."
- ▶ God's perfect design for the expression of sexual love between husband and wife—delivered to humanity in the Garden of Eden—has been radically altered due to the entrance of sin into our world.
- ▶ Today, our politicians, our teachers, the media and society in general deem all sexual activity, sexual orientation and gender identification to be permissible. And not only permissible, but to be encouraged and celebrated.
- ▶ As God's people on Earth and ambassadors for Christ to this fallen world, how should we respond?
- ▶ First, on a personal level, we all need to be honest with God about who we are and the struggles we may be facing.

### KEY SCRIPTURE:

Proverbs 3:5-6

- ▶ He can handle it. He is not scared or frightened by who we are and what we represent.
- ▶ In fact, Jesus went out of His way during His time on Earth to reach out to those everyone else wanted to ignore and ostracize. He loved those that others hated and freely associated and socialized with them.
- ▶ Yet Jesus never condoned human sin. He personally faced every temptation known to man, but never succumbed to sin.
- ▶ Therefore, as He did, we can engage with the world around us with love, compassion and understanding, without ever condoning sin.
- ▶ Take the time to familiarize yourself with the Bible's stance on sexuality. Communicate it to others with such love and care that it allows people to hear and consider what God is saying to us.
- ▶ Trust that the word of God has the power to change lives and draw all people to Himself.
- ▶ Proverbs 3:5-6 lists four of components that are crucial for us to observe and practice.
- ▶ It calls for the kind of trust in God that consumes our hearts and causes us to become "God Chasers."
- ▶ It calls for the kind of trust in God that supersedes human understanding.
- ▶ It calls for the kind of trust that causes us to place Him on the highest pedestal in our lives and acknowledge Him as God.
- ▶ It calls for the kind of trusting submission that allows Him to lead us by His word and His "still, small voice" into His perfect will.
- ▶ In God We Trust.

### DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. How can we engage with the world around us with love and compassion without condoning sin?
2. Find Scriptures that state the Bible's teachings on sexuality. How would you convey these principles to others, in love, so they may receive it?
3. What (other) aspects of sexuality have you or others found difficult to accept God's decrees for? How have/can you/they demonstrate trust in God?







### Prayer Time

Lord, I put my faith and trust in You. Have Your way in me, and help me to live the way You want me to live. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

## WEEK OF SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2017

### NOTES

Meditate as you read through/listen to this week's message. If it helps, use symbols for your notes.

-  (Reminds me/Confirms)
  (New idea)
  (Think about)
-  (Do this)
  (Speaks to my heart)
  (Must share)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

L.G. Ice-Breaker: Have you ever had to deal with untrustworthy people? How were you able to interact with them?