

Faith Series: Trusting God

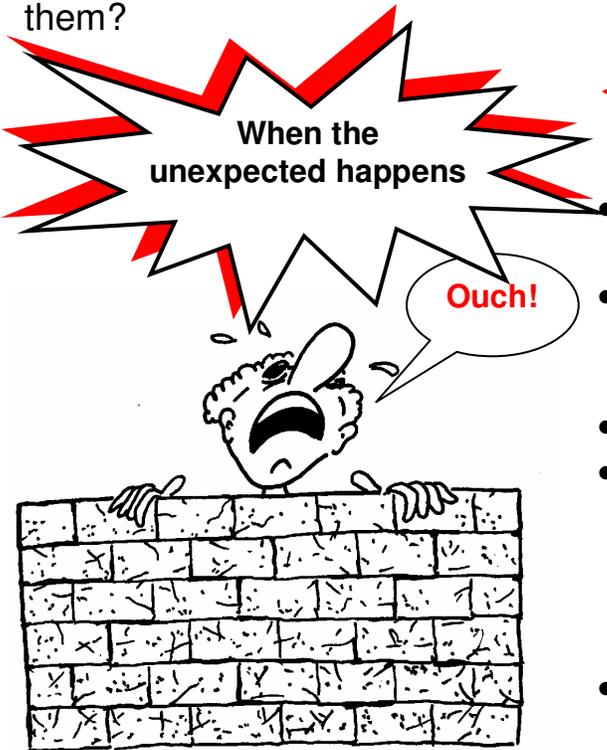
Life is a constant stream of events and encounters. Some are within our abilities to manage, while others are totally out of our control. In every case, we make choices, the results of which determine our destinies. We inevitably trust in something or somebody to validate and secure our choices. Decisions are always made by trusting someone or something.

For example:

Choices

Who Or What We Trust	
Our own instincts	The authority or words of others
Our philosophies of life	Luck
Our confidence in ourselves	Our ability to reason things through
Our experience	Our education.
Our strengths	Our relationships, etc.

Is there something bigger than these things  that might one day render them ineffective and untrustworthy, as you process your life's decisions? Could they let you down? Might they be worthless, useless, and completely powerless to help when you most need them?



your trust is misplaced...

- You will find yourself *suddenly* stripped of any answer.
- You will realize you are naked of any defense, covering or security of any kind.
- It will be far bigger than you!
- You may experience fear, uncertainty, disappointment, confusion, sense of loss, indecision, feelings of entrapment, paralysis or defeat.
- You will have run into a brick wall!

Two New Testament words for faith to trust in Christ...*
(Read their contexts)

peitho, pi'-tho; a prim. verb; to assent (to evidence or authority), to rely (by inward certainty):--agree, assure, believe, have confidence, be (wax) content, make friend, obey, persuade, trust, yield

Mark 10:24
2 Corinthians 1:9, 10
2 Corinthians 3:5
Philippians 2:19, 24
1 Timothy 4:10; 6:17
Hebrews 2:13

pisteuo, pist-yoo'-o; from G4102; translated here as trust (from the root word pistis, which means faith) - to have faith (in, upon, or with respect to, a person or thing), to entrust (especially one's spiritual well-being to Christ):--believe (-r), commit (to trust), put in trust with.

Luke 16:11

*Strong's

"Some trust in chariots,
"and some in horses..."

📖 Psalm 20:7a

The inevitable result...

Biblical Principle

"There is a way that seems right to a man,
But its end is the way of death."

📖 Proverbs 14:12, 16:25

Questions: **Where** can you **Turn** ?

Who can you **Turn** to?

When

FEAR or...

UNCERTAINTY or...

DISAPPOINTMENT blocks your path?

- Physical harm
- Emotional loss
- Sickness, death
- _____

- Disruption of life's routines
- Confusion about the next step
- _____

- Somebody let you down.
- Your own plan fell apart.
- You were rejected.

Some of these conditions are inevitable. Change, or the threat of change will

Shake your tree!

We live in a world where bad things happen! There are times when you will lose all control over what you find yourself in.

Answers: **Where** can you **Turn** ?

(while there is still time!)

"He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty."

📖 Psalm 91:1

Who can you **Turn** to?

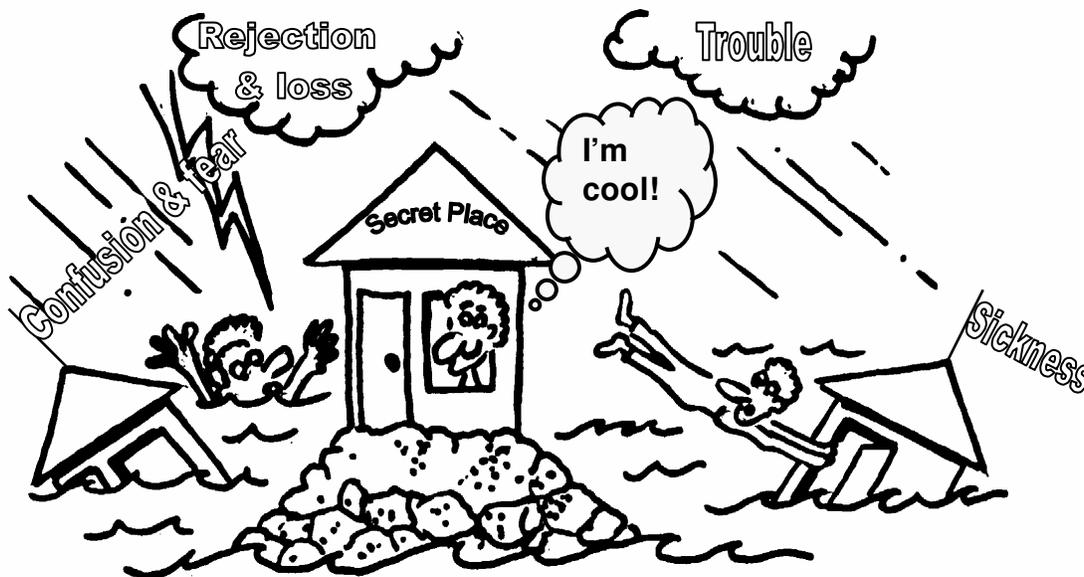
(who is bigger than your circumstance!)

"I will say of the LORD, 'He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust.'"

📖 Psalm 91:2

Before the inevitable storms of life come, wouldn't you like to access the only totally dependable and absolutely safe place to position yourself for victory? Wouldn't it make good sense to occupy it now?

Do Psalm 91, verses 9-10 have any connection to John 15:7?



Question: Why is he  cool in the midst of a flood of trouble?

Answer: He has made his abiding place, his home, his dwelling place, his permanent, continuous residence... the "secret place!"

Scripture give us at least three clear choices we can make before the storms come... so when they do come will find ourselves abiding safely under God's presence.

Key words

- Keep
- Bear
- Abide

1. "...If anyone loves Me, **HE WILL KEEP MY WORD** and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him."  John 14:23 NKJV
*"If you **KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS**, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love."*  John 15:10 NKJV
2. "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him **BEARS MUCH FRUIT**; for without Me you can do nothing."  John 15:5 NKJV
3. "If you **ABIDE IN ME**, and **MY WORDS ABIDE IN YOU**, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you."  John 15:7 NKJV

Can you think of any other Biblical instruction to help us understand abiding in the secret place?

How do the words "Apart from Me you can do nothing" define these Scriptures?

"My God, in Him I will trust."

Paraphrase:

Lord Jesus, I will embrace you with a determination that You alone will be my Hiding Place, my Strong Tower and my Deliverer. In all that you are will I place all that I am.

In Jesus Christ alone!

When life goes "beyond tough" and becomes "impossible," only Jesus will make the difference. With Him, "all things are possible." He will see you through. You must look to Him!

What does it mean to abide with and in Him?

- What are the keys to living under the shadow of our almighty Lord and Savior?
- Which secret places do we try to keep from Him?
- Have you given Him access to your secret places?

"He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall remain stable and fixed under the shadow of the Almighty [Whose power no foe can withstand]. 2 I will say of the Lord, He is my Refuge and my Fortress, my God; on Him I lean and rely, and in Him I [confidently] trust!"

Psalm 91:1, 2
Amplified Bible

LOOK ↓

John 14:13, 14
John 16:23, 24
Psalm 112:7

<p><i>"Some trust in chariots, and some in horses... But <u>we will remember the name of the LORD our God.</u>"</i> 📖 Psalm 20:7b NKJV</p>	<p><u>Biblical Principle</u> God says, "Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him on high, <u>because he has known My name.</u>" 📖 Psalm 91:14 NKJV</p>
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What does "knowing His name" mean to you?

Never substitute anyone or anything for knowing the Lord Jesus Christ, and being intimately acquainted with His name.

"Truly my soul silently waits for God; From Him comes my salvation. {2} He only is my rock and my salvation; He is my defense; I shall not be greatly moved...My soul, wait silently for God alone, For my expectation is from Him. {6} He only is my rock and my salvation; He is my defense; I shall not be moved. {7} In God is my salvation and my glory; The rock of my strength, And my refuge, is in God. {8} Trust in Him at all times, you people; Pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us. Selah"

📖 Psalm 62:1, 2, 6-8 NKJV

What qualifies Christ to be the One we trust in?

"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, {6} who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, {7} but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. {8} 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. {9} Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, {10} that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, {11} and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

"and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power {20} which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, {21} far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. {22} And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, {23} which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all."

Ephesians 1:19-23 NKJV

"Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"),"

 Galatians 3:13 NKJV

Toward who? 

Far above how many? 



Hebrews 4:14-16

Galatians 3:14

The redemptive work of Christ on the cross defeated every enemy of God and His people.

- God, therefore, gave Jesus total authority, which we may exercise as His sons and daughters, through His name.
- The power behind His name is the same power that raised Him from the dead and placed all things under His feet.
- His redemptive work, His authority and His resurrection power are to be found in a close relationship with Him.
- When you abide in the secret place of the Most High, the shadow of comfort and protection He casts, is empowered by His absolute, omnipotent authority, given by God the Father.

**Do you know Him
and do you know His name?**

Trust in God alone!

In Biblical terms, to know means to experience intimately.