Message Reflections

a little something extra to keep you connected to Jesus this week

Message Reflections accompany the weekly message.

I think Jerry McGuire said it best, "We live in a cynical world. A cynical world."

In this cynical world, do you ever find it hard to trust people? And when you go to church, and you hear someone telling you to trust God, or you hear the pastor say, "Jesus will keep you safe," do you think to yourself, "How can I trust a God I can't see, when I can't even trust people who I do see?"

As the saying goes, this is the crux of the matter, isn't it? Can I really trust God? Can I trust Him with my life, and everything that is important to me? Can I trust Him with my family, my job, my finances, and my health? Can I trust Him when I am afraid, when I am frustrated, and when I am overwhelmed? The list goes on and on, but the question is the same? Can I trust God?

I don't mean to insult anyone with the simplicity of my response, but the answer to every one of these 'Can I trust' questions is a resounding YES!

You may be thinking right now, "but how, my problems are too big?" or "I am so afraid."

"How can I really trust God?"

God has given you everything you need to trust Him, in His Son, Jesus. Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in Me." (John 14:1)

He gives us three commands here, three commands that are the key to trusting God in every circumstance.

First, "Do not let your hearts be troubled." Troubles are common to every life, and in every life, they are the mortal enemy of trust. Troubles seem to sweep in like a flood, and in the flood waters, our trust in the Lord is often drowned. But Jesus gives us a command here to not allow that to happen.

What...How?!?

When troubles come, and they will come, choose not to be troubled by them. Don't look at them, don't think about them, don't stress over them, don't lose sleep over them...whatever it is you do when troubles come, don't! Trust God instead.

This is the second command, "Trust God." God is so much BIGGER than every trouble this life throws at us. And He loves us so much. He loves you SO much. He has the power to stop every trouble, and one day He will, but for now He allows troubles, and even sends us out into a world of trouble so that we will learn to trust Him. So, the next time troubles come knocking at your door, turn to God and tell Him, "I trust You."

But you say, "I have tried that, and the troubles still find a way into my soul, and they begin to eat away at me from the inside, until all I can see are the troubles."

I understand. I've been there, and I have learned that this is why Jesus said, "Trust also in Me."

This is the final command, "Trust Jesus." There is a divine mystery at work in this final command. When you put your trust in Jesus, and you have received Him and make Him Lord of your life, by the power of the Holy Spirit, He enters your heart and gives to you a new life. The Bible says you are a new creation. And from this secret place in your heart, He begins to live His life out through you. It truly is a divine mystery. When troubles come, and you trust in Jesus, He is the One who carries you through and delivers you from trouble. He has made this promise to all who love Him and Trust Him.

"Because he loves Me,' says the Lord, 'I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges My Name. He will call on Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him." (Psalm 91:14-15)

"I will be with you...I will deliver you..." What great promises from the Lord that we should learn to claim in every storm! There's an old hymn that my parents used to sing to me when I was afraid to teach me to remember the promises of God and that I truly can trust Him with everything. It is a very simple hymn about how sweet it is to put our trust in Jesus.

Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, Just to take Him at His word; Just to rest upon His promise; Just to know, Thus saith the Lord. I think sometimes we make life too complicated, and we forget just how simple life can be when we walk with our Lord in simple trust. Are you trusting Him today? Next time troubles come, and fear and doubt enter your heart, don't give it any ground. Instead remember His promises, and Trust Jesus!

- What troubles of the world is Jesus sending you into?
- Are you trusting the Lord Jesus for every part of your life today?

