Pastoral Pondering

LEVELS OF TRUST ~ WHAT IS YOURS

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding" - Proverbs 3:5

What is your level of trust? Every one of us has a certain level, of some sort, in which we trust in things. I would say that most of us have a high level of trust that tomorrow morning the sun will rise. I would say that most of us have a low level of trust that next year's snowfall will taste like peppermint.

What does it even mean to trust? In the verb sense, trust is a belief, confidence, hope or expectation that can be relied upon. But the trust within us is also a noun - a belief that can be placed in something or someone. We see both of these meanings in the Proverbs text - we are to *actively* trust and are also called to place this trust *in* the LORD.

Then this verse takes a turn - it says to trust with our *heart*. We would normally think that it would be our mind that trusts in things, but this verse shows that trust flows from our hearts. What or who does your heart trust in? Are you trusting in your abilities to deal with situations more than relying upon God?

This verse then concludes with a warning of an outside influence upon your trust: your own understanding. That's scary. Could your understanding of things be diminishing your level of trust in God? Might we be letting the world and its ways shape our thinking at a deeper level than we're letting Scripture reshape us? Are we allowing our experiences to shape our understanding more than the Word of God? Scripture must be the greatest influence upon our lives and thinking.

What must you trust Him with? To mend broken relationships? Work situations? Unknown future events or plans? Are you trusting Him with your possessions and finances? To bring about healing? Do you trust that He cares for you and your family? Are you fearing something or someone more than you fear God?

The prophet Habakkuk lays out a bleak picture of his surroundings and the situation he's in, but reminds himself (and us) of why he actively trusts in the LORD:

"Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food,

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Pastoral Pondering

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the flock be cut off from the fold
and there be no herd in the stalls,
yet I will rejoice in the Lord;
I will take joy in the God of my salvation.
God, the Lord, is my strength;
he makes my feet like the deer's;
he makes me tread on my high places."
- Habakkuk 3:17-19

We must set our trust in Him high, for He has proven Himself time and again that He is *completely* trustworthy. Remember that the Lord always plans to bring about all things for His glory and our good, even when we don't fully see or understand that which is going on around us. Do not lean on your own understanding. Trust Him with all your heart; our Savior and King, Jesus Christ, has shown us in His birth, life, death, resurrection and ascension that everything He has said in His Word is perfectly true and trustworthy. Let us daily look to Him and trust in Him. - pastor jeff



-welcome-

If you are a visitor this morning or have only been coming to New Life for a few months, we are glad you are joining with us! If you would like to learn more about New Life, be sure to stop by the Resource Center in the front foyer to pick up a welcome bag we have for you. Please join us for fellowship and a meal after service today where we would love to meet and get to know you and for you to get to know us more.

nlcc resourcecenter

Are you looking for a good book to give as a gift or thinking of starting a bible study? Check out our resource center and ask the resource ministry team for some good suggestions. In addition to good books for both adults and children, there are also music CD's, DVD documentaries, bible concordance, systematic theology books, and much more. We have many choices, so be sure to take a look today after service.

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This Week's Scheduled Events:

Mon	Prayer Night/Barton's- 6:30 pm
Tues	Men's Bible Study- 6:30 am
Wed	Every Man's Battle- 6:00 am
Thurs	Men's Bible Study- 6:30 am
Thurs	Ladies Bible Study- 10:30 am
Thurs	Ladies Bible Study- Noon
Thurs	Ladies Precept Study- 6:30 pm
Thurs	GriefShare- 6:30 pm
	(Adults & Youth meet separately)

June Memory Verse:

Deuteronomy 4:9 (ESV)

"Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to you children and your children's children..."

June Fellowship Tip:

Have you committed yourself to invest in the work of gospel ministry here at New Life and want to learn more about what it means to become a Partner? Take a moment and talk to one of the elders/pastors and they would be glad to begin that process with you.

Sunday Meals and Fellowship:

June 9 No Sunday Meal Service June 16 Meal Team 5 ~ Breakfast

Summer Schedule~meals only on 1st & 3rd Sundays
Contact Barbara Judkins if interested in being on a
meal team or a helper.

Check Out New Life Online newlifechristiancommunity.org

New Baby Boy: Lets shower the Umlauf family with size 1 diapers as they have recently welcomed into their home a baby boy (Axel) who they are fostering. Just place in the basket next to the welcome counter.

Pray also for baby Axel's heath, wisdom for Sam and Jess, and much grace for the whole family as they serve the Lord in this ministry.

- 2024 Graduates: Congratulations to our Graduates! If your name was on the sign-up sheet there is a gift bag waiting for you at the resource center with some sweet things to eat and wise things to read. Enjoy! Let's also be praying for and supporting our young people as they enter into new responsibilities and a new season of life keeping their focus Ever Always Only Jesus.
- TRI-COUNTY Options for Women: A reminder for those who took a baby bottle or plan to donate, please turn your donations in by Father's Day (next Sunday), June 16th.
- Important Summer Dates: Sunday, June 23rd after service head over to Dresser Park for a picnic. Bring picnic blankets, chairs, and lawn games. We'll be grilling up some brats and hot dogs for all!

Saturday evening, July 27th we're welcoming back the Paul Family Bluegrass Band for a night of smoked meat sandwiches followed by some good ol boot stomping, hand clapping, head bobbing, backwoods twang. Feel free to invite friends.

Sunday, August 4th is our annual Baptism service being held at the ARC in Osceola. If you have not been baptized and you're interested in now being baptized as a public proclamation of faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, please reach out to any one of the pastor/elders. Make sure to sign up at the welcome table.

Friday, September 6th through Saturday the 7th is a Men's campout on the St. Croix River. Don't forget your Ham Radio!

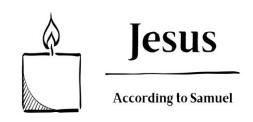
Friday, September 27th and Saturday, 28th the Young Adult Genesis Study is having its first gathering camping out at Wood Lake Retreat Center! It's a steal of a deal for \$54/person for 1 night stay and 3 meals. Looking forward to extended time fellowshipping around the Word of God and growing to know our Lord more together. If you're interested be sure to sign up at the welcome table.

Upcoming Showers: Bridal shower for Carley Peikert engaged to Ben Wilson, Sunday, June 23rd at 2pm at the New Life Building Carley and Ben's Registry information can be found at: https://www.theknot.com/us/benjamin-wilson-and-carly-peikert-jul-2024/registry

Baby shower for Margo Steward married to Ben Steward, Sunday, June 30th at 2pm at the New Life Building. Margo and Ben's registry information can be found at: https://www.amazon.com/baby-reg/24N84Y9MUW79E?ref=br search v2 desktop res 1

CEF:: This summer CEF (Child Evangelism Fellowship) is putting on a 5-day club at the New Life building Monday July 15th through the 19th meeting from 1:15pm-2:45pm each day. It's set up for ages 5-12. Your free to bring/invite friends and neighbors too!

If you are interested in volunteering to help with registering children upon arrival, praying with the students, and distributing snacks after club each day, just reach out to Carie Wright. These 5 days will be Jesus centered and full of Gospel truths, spread the word!



TODAY'S PASSAGE:

Pastor Tony's message is from the Old Testament book,

1 SAMUEL 25:23-43

SERMON NOTES: