

The Trust Factor

Session 3 Worksheet

STORY 1 PUTTING GOD FIRST

Discussion

1. What does trust have to do with my relationship with God?
2. If I talk “faith” yet never take the “leap of faith,” what am I missing and how might I be described?
3. Do I have the faith to believe that God is ready to answer my prayer of faith even before it has been uttered? Share a time that God answered your prayer before you prayed it.

STORY 2 EXERCISING FAITH AND TRUST IN OUR GIVING

Discussion

1. What level of trust does God want from us? Explain this verse: “For all the promises of God in Him are yes” (2 Cor. 1:20 NKJV).
2. If God knows my future and wants only the best for me, what must I do as His steward to connect with the blessings He wants to pour out?

STORY 3 SUPPORTING THE LOCAL CHURCH

Discussion

1. What lessons can I learn from the founding fathers of the Seventh-day Adventist Church that I might implement in my own life?
2. Are “worry” and “control” two issues I need to work on in my life? How am I doing so?
3. The Seventh-day Adventist Church has a system of tithing and offerings equal to nearly no other denomination. The ministry and mission is supported so that second jobs and split emphasis is not necessary on the part of its leaders as it is in some denominations. Experience has shown that God led in the development of tithing and systematic giving. When members are faithful in tithes and offerings, the mission of the church will not be weakened and the gospel will go forward as God intended. What is the best way to fund the world-wide mission God has given us? Explain the role of tithe and the role of offerings. What is it like to experience the full blessing of God?

STORY 4 THE NON-BELIEVING SPOUSE

Discussion

1. Discuss ways to handle giving to the church when spouses don't agree.

HOME PROJECT

Determine three new ways to deepen your trust in God, and then implement them.

Five top reasons for returning a tithe

1. Solid basic Bible principle
2. I want to be honest with God
3. God means so much to me
4. I value my church
5. The blessings from God when I give

Quiz

1. What does the word Stewardship mean to you?
2. What does stewardship have to do with your family finances?
3. Is generosity a characteristic that you believe Jesus' followers are to live out?
4. As a follower of Jesus, how do you live out the characteristic of generosity?

Something to think about

"Happiness doesn't result from what we get, but from what we give." –Ben Carson

"Pray and let God worry." –Martin Luther

"'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future'" (Jer. 29:11 NIV).

"Systematic and liberal giving in accordance with ..." biblical principles of stewardship "keeps the channel of the heart open. We place ourselves in connection with God that He may use us as channels through which His gifts may flow to others." –Ellen G. White, *Testimonies to the Church*, Vol. 3, p. 412

My prayer commitment

The heart of the matter for me is: _____

Answers:
1. "Delegated responsibility." Overseeing property or resources that belong to someone else.
2. God will be included in all of our financial decisions.
3. Generosity is a state of the heart. Giving should be as natural as breathing.