

Practicing the Way of Jesus

Trusting the Father

Matthew 3:16-4:11

Practicing the Way of Jesus

The way that Jesus practiced and/or promoted.

- Trust
- Silence and Solitude
- Connecting to the marginalized
- Prayer
- Service
- The Examen
- Focus on the Inner Life
- Story telling
- Simplicity

What is trust?

“belief in the reliability, truth, or ability of someone or something.”

Comes from the same word as

- Believe
- Faith
- Trustworthy

Trust

*“One arrow, pointing left, read Pleasing God.
The one leading right reads Trusting God.
You’re kidding. I’m supposed to choose
between these two? I’m not doing that.
Choosing one means not choosing the other.”*



Trust

“I look up at the Trusting God sign. This has to be a trap, a trick question. It sounds good, but it doesn't give me anything to do. It's too passive. How will I make a difference?”



Trust

“I move over to the Pleasing God sign, pointing down the path to the left. This has to be it! After all He’s done for me, the very least I can do is please Him.

So I set off on the path of pleasing God... I’m encouraged to see this path is well-travelled, beaten level with the feet of a million travellers...”

The Cure



Trust

God is pleased when we trust in him.

Trusting God opens us to new experiences and realities.

Trusting God is linked to straight paths (Proverbs 3:5-6).

*There are degrees to which we trust... sort of!
It involves surrender.*

Trusting God is where it starts!



1 – The Way of Jesus begins

“This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.” 3:17

“If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.” 4:3

“If you are the son of God throw yourself down...” 4:6

“All this I give you if you bow down and worship me.” 4:9

Trust in the Father is foundational to Jesus' ministry. No wonder the Father is pleased!

2 – The Way of Jesus continues

“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink, or about your body, what you will wear...”

Matthew 6:25

“My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.” Matthew 26:39

3 – The Way of Jesus fulfilled

“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” Matthew 27:46b

3 – The Way of Jesus fulfilled

Psalm 22:1-18

*My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
All who see me mock me; they hurl insults,
shaking their heads.*

“He trusts in the Lord... let the Lord rescue him.”

My mouth is dried up...

...they pierce my hands and my feet.

*My bones are on display; people stare and gloat
over me.*

*They divide my clothes among them and cast lots
for my garment.*

3 – The Way of Jesus fulfilled

Psalm 22:19-31

“...future generations will be told about the Lord. They will proclaim his righteousness, declaring to a people yet unborn: He has done it!”

“Father, into your hands I commit my Spirit”

Luke 23:46

“It is finished”

John 19:30

How can we practice trusting the Father more?

Psalm 37:3 – ***Trust*** in the Lord and ***do good***.

1 Timothy 4:10 – To this end we ***labor***, because we ***trust*** in the living God.

Galatians 5:6 – What avails in Christ Jesus is ***faith working through love***.

Note: the **trust/faith** is primary to the **good labor of love!**

The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

Your kingdom come

Your will be done

Give us our daily bread

Forgive us

Lead us to good things (not temptation)

Deliver us from evil

The Welcome Prayer

*I welcome everything that comes to me
today*

because I know it's for my healing.

*I welcome all thoughts, feelings, emotions,
persons, situations, and conditions...*

What is God calling you to surrender or trust him about this week?

- Relationship?
- Work?
- Time?
- Health?
- Family?
- Wealth?