

MESSAGE OUTLINE

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Let's Trust is the fourth message in the series: *Let's Break the Rules*. The upcoming messages will be *Let's Think*, *Let's Choose*, *Let's Change*, and *Living by Grace*.

OBJECTIVE

To show the power of trust in deepening our love for God and others.

THEME

God created us to trust as a means of connecting in community.

REVIEW

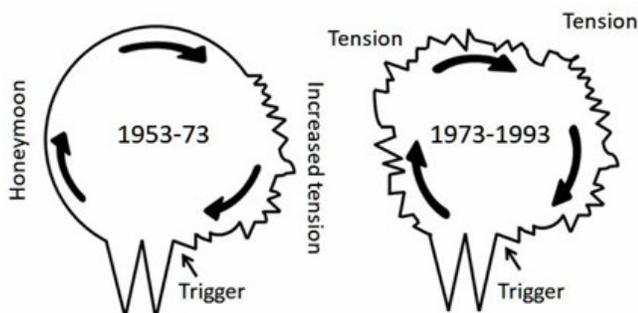
Breaking the *don't feel* rule is key to not letting our pain and struggle go to waste. Emotions are like a dashboard revealing to us what's happening in our hearts and prompting us toward self-examination.

HIGH TRUST EXAMPLES

Trust is confidence. The opposite of trust is suspicion. Some examples of high trust would be:

- When God gives Adam the task of maintaining the Garden of Eden and naming the animals
- When Abraham obeys God and moves from his hometown toward Canaan, not knowing where he is going
- When Jonathan and David make a covenant
- When David gathers his mighty men
- When Jesus opens His heart to his disciples at the Last Supper and calls them friends, knowing that one of the group will soon betray Him.

PERSONAL STORY of BROKEN TRUST • Dan W



TRUST and POWER • Matthew 20:25-28

Bankruptcy always happens the same way: gradually, then suddenly. Giving away power (serving among) builds trust and expands our influence. Grabbing for more power (lording over) destroys trust and diminishes our influence. Trust inevitably breaks when there's a pattern of grabbing for power.

BROKEN TRUST EXAMPLES

- King Saul tries to spear David twice, triggering David's hiding in the wilderness for 15 years
- Peter denies knowing Jesus out of fear of being identified with Him

THREE CATEGORIES OF PEOPLE

This can help us figure out who to trust:

- Wise people hear and are teachable (Prov. 1:5). They own their issues and struggles without blaming or excuses. Talking with these people always helps. They know how to listen.
- Foolish people don't hear and are unteachable (Prov. 1:7; 12:15). His way is right in his own eyes. He's never wrong. Since they don't listen, it's appropriate to stop talking with them.
- Evil people seek to destroy so we need to do whatever it takes to protect ourselves from them (Psa. 34:14; 140:1). These people deserve the gift of defeat. Talking never works with these people

Forgiveness is a gift. When I forgive, I'm the main beneficiary. Trust is something we earn.

JESUS and PETER • Matthew 26:33-35; John 21:15-17

Trust can be rebuilt, even to the point of re-entering ministry. Jesus asking Peter tough questions made his rashness leave for the rest of his life. Re-building trust requires introspection, integrity, apologizing, direct communication, and accountability.

SUMMARY

Breaking the *don't trust* rule is necessary to create healthy community. It will require multiple times of consistent and complete follow-through.