CREEKSIDE’S TEACHING NOTES for Sunday, January 20, 2019

HAPPY HOME

THE TRUST FACTOR

Trust is the foundation of all human connections, from chance encounters to friendships and intimate [relationships](https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/basics/relationships). It governs all the interactions we have with each other.

Some people are able to trust more easily than others and are, in fact, better at being trustworthy and judging trustworthiness.

Every person in your relationship circle is connected to you by this thing called trust.

Trust is broken when it is revealed that one person in the relationship has betrayed the covenant of that relationship. It can come from such things as dishonesty, disloyalty, unfaithfulness or withholding.

(Proximity) X (Intimacy) X (History) = TRUST FACTOR

"The unfortunate thing about betrayal

is that it never comes from enemies."

CHRISTIANS SHOULD STRIVE TO BE TRUSTWORTHY BY . . .

⚫ Keeping their word ([Matthew 5:37](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Matt%205.37))

⚫ Being discreet and refraining from gossiping ([Proverbs 16:28](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Prov%2016.28); [20:19](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Proverbs%2020.19); [1 Timothy 5:13](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/1%20Tim%205.13); [2 Timothy 2:16](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/2%20Tim%202.16))

⚫ Speaking up when appropriate and helping bring about restoration from sin ([Matthew 18:15–17](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Matt%2018.15%E2%80%9317); [Galatians 6:1](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Gal%206.1))

⚫ Speaking the truth with love ([Ephesians 4:15](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Eph%204.15); [1 Peter 3:15](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/1%20Pet%203.15))

⚫ Caring for the practical needs of others ([James 2:14–17](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/James%202.14%E2%80%9317); [1 John 3:17–18](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/1%20John%203.17%E2%80%9318); [4:20–21](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/1%20John%204.20%E2%80%9321))

⚫ Being a safe place for others ([Proverbs 3:29](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Prov%203.29))

⚫ Keeping confidences ([Proverbs 11:13](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Prov%2011.13))

⚫ Being honest ([Proverbs 12:22](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Prov%2012.22))

⚫ Being willing to suffer with a friend ([Proverbs 17:17](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Prov%2017.17))

THE BETRAYALS FACED BY JOSEPH:

⚫ The betrayal of jealousy - Genesis 37:23-28

⚫ The betrayal of a lie - Genesis 39:1-6a

⚫ The betrayal of a broken promise - Genesis 40:23

HOW TO GET THE TRUST BACK

1. TRUST GOD: There is no place in the bible where we are commanded to trust people. We are told to love, honour, encourage, care, pray and so on for others. However, we are told emphatically and repeatedly to trust in God.

It is better to trust in the Lord  
Than to put confidence in man.  
It is better to trust in the Lord  
Than to put confidence in princes.

Psalm 118:8-9

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not unto your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Joseph was constantly aware of and trusted in God.

Genesis 39:2,3,21,23 “The LORD was with Joseph.”

Genesis 41:16 “…God will give Pharaoh the answer he desires.”

“You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done the saving of many lives.”

Genesis 50:20

2. FORGIVE:

Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

Colossians 3:13

Forgiveness does not mean that you automatically trust again. Forgiveness means that you get rid of the desire for personal revenge (denial, forgiveness or vengeance are your only options). This may be in part the wrestling that Joseph had when he discovered his brothers had come to Egypt for food.

3. DECIDE IF YOU ARE GOING TO TRUST AGAIN AND IF SO START TO: If you don’t trust then true relationship is impossible. Even though others will fail us at times, and we ourselves are not always trustworthy, we can and should still trust people to varying degrees.

IT BEGINS AND ENDS WITH TRUSTING GOD

