

Title: Trust Me - Romans 4 16-25

Read:

¹⁶This is why the fulfillment of God's promise depends entirely on trusting God and his way, and then simply embracing him and what he does. God's promise arrives as pure gift. That's the only way everyone can be sure to get in on it, those who keep the religious traditions and those who have never heard of them. For Abraham is father of us all. He is not our racial father—that's reading the story backward. He is our faith father. ¹⁷⁻¹⁸We call Abraham "father" not because he got God's attention by living like a saint, but because God made something out of Abraham when he was a nobody. Isn't that what we've always read in Scripture, God saying to Abraham, "I set you up as father of many peoples"? Abraham was first named "father" and then became a father because he dared to trust God to do what only God could do: raise the dead to life, with a word make something out of nothing. When everything was hopeless, Abraham believed anyway, deciding to live not on the basis of what he saw he couldn't do but on what God said he would do. And so he was made father of a multitude of peoples. God himself said to him, "You're going to have a big family, Abraham!" ¹⁹⁻²⁵Abraham didn't focus on his own impotence and say, "It's hopeless. This hundred-year-old body could never father a child." Nor did he survey Sarah's decades of infertility and give up. He didn't tiptoe around God's promise asking cautiously skeptical questions. He plunged into the promise and came up strong, ready for God, sure that God would make good on what he had said. That's why it is said, "Abraham was declared fit before God by trusting God to set him right." But it's not just Abraham; it's also us! The same thing gets said about us when we embrace and believe the One who brought Jesus to life when the conditions were equally hopeless. The sacrificed Jesus made us fit for God, set us right with God.

Think:

Trusting God is easy. After all trusting the God who made the universe to grow food that you can eat isn't a problem when you live in a rich society. Trusting the God who created you from nothing to heal your cold isn't a problem when you have a snotty nose. Trusting God to provide food when you live in a third world country that has experienced drought for years, takes a little more faith. Trusting God to heal you of cancer, through the doctors he has provided isn't as straight forward. But people do trust God in these big situations as well as in the small situations, and they are fantastic examples to all of us. So how do we learn to trust God, like these people? How do we learn to trust God as we leave school and are worried about our future? How do we learn to trust God with our relationships at school? We learn to trust God in the same way that you learn to trust anyone. You don't trust the new guys you meet at school or college straight away, but after some time of getting to know them you build up a level of trust. And then after a while there are some who you really begin to trust. Well you can learn to trust God in the same way. Speak to God as you go about your day at school or college. Chat with him as you walk home, about the concerns you have. The more time you spend talking to God, and the more you ask him to help you, the more you will trust him. As you spend time chatting to God you will begin to recognise him speaking back to you, and trusting what he says.

Pray:

Father thank you for the big things you help me with, please help me to share with you the small concerns in my life as well. Bye.

Action:

Think about something that you are concerned about. Go on turn it over to God today and trust what he says. Bye.