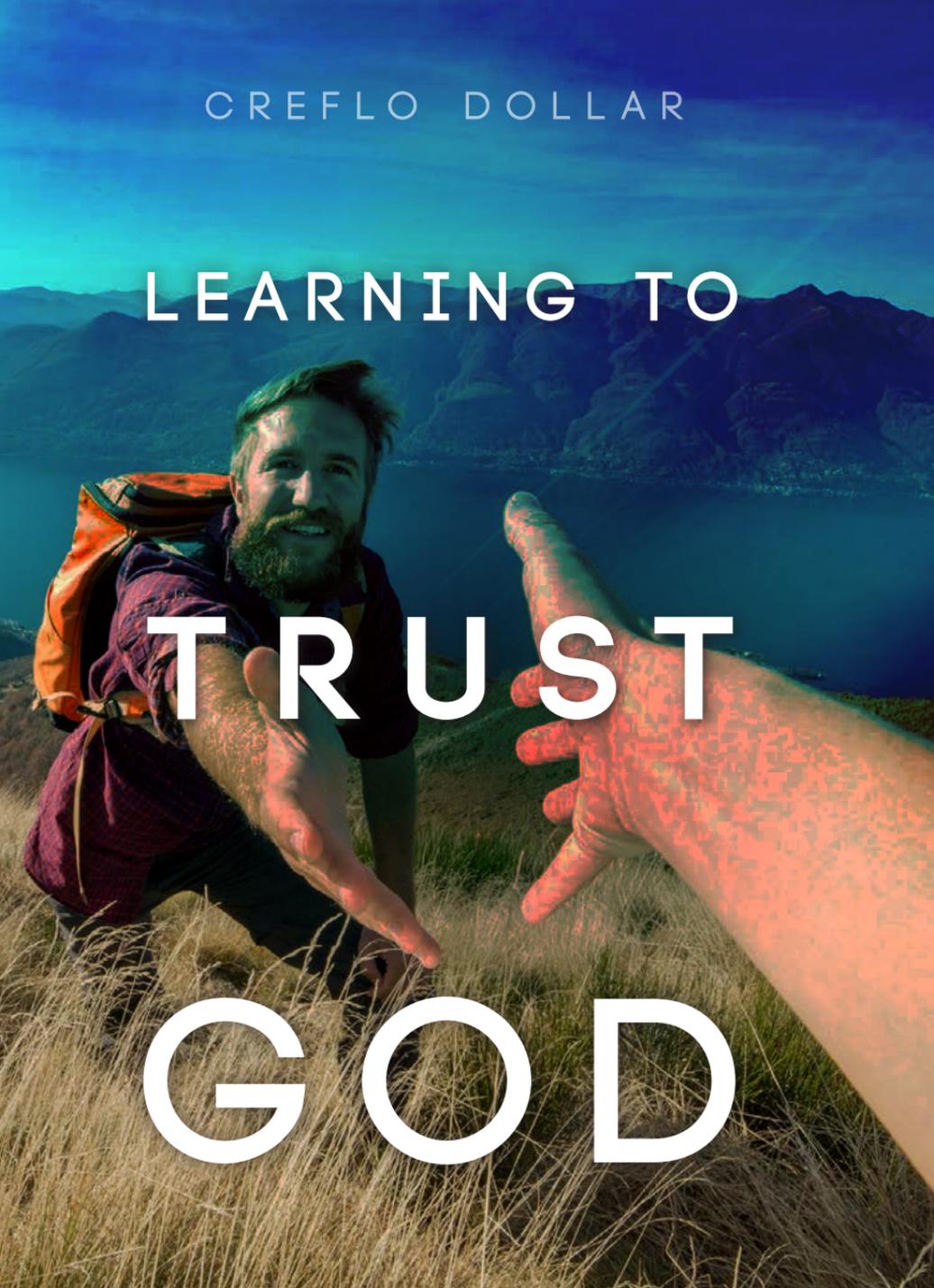


CREFLO DOLLAR

LEARNING TO

TRUST

GOD



CREFLO DOLLAR

LEARNING TO  
TRUST  
GOD

Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are taken from the *Kings James Version* of the Bible.

Scripture quotations marked NIV are taken from the *Holy Bible, New International Version* ®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by the International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan Publishing House. All rights reserved.

*Learning to Trust God*

Copyright © 2013 by Creflo Dollar

Published by:

Creflo Dollar Ministries

P.O. Box 490124

College Park, Georgia 30349

Printed in the United States of America. All rights reserved under International Copyright Law. Contents and/or cover may not be reproduced in whole or in part without the express written consent of the publisher.

# Contents

## **Chapter 1**

Do We Really Trust God?.....5

## **Chapter 2**

Trust is Born Out of Relationship.....10

## **Chapter 3**

First Base is the Word.....16

## **Chapter 4**

Trust God, Not Money.....24

## CHAPTER 1

# Do We Really Trust God?

Trusting God is similar to trusting a navigation system for directions. When you need to get somewhere you've never been, and the navigation system tells you to turn right, you don't question it. You simply follow the directions, trusting that it knows how to get you to your destination. Even if you misunderstand a direction and get lost, you are assured that it will show you a different route to the same destination. God is our navigation system for life, except He reveals *His* plan for our lives. We must trust Him and follow His directions to stay on track. Through the promptings of the Holy Spirit, His written Word, and spoken (Rhema) Word, He navigates us. When we miss it in life or make a wrong turn, God gets us back on the right path.

Proverbs 3:5, 6 states, *“Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own*

*understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy paths.*” What does this mean exactly? It means that in everything you do, acknowledge God as your primary source. You may understand some things about a situation, but God says, “Don’t lean on that. Don’t lean on what you understand. Acknowledge Me, and allow Me to direct you.”

### ***WHAT IF WE DON'T TRUST?***

Whenever we don’t believe or trust God, we can ask Him for help. None of us will trust Him perfectly at all times. This is why we need His grace. Jesus helps us when we are weak. For instance, a man asked Jesus for help with his unbelief when his son was suffering with demonic attacks. Mark 9:14-24, *NLT*, states:

When they returned to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd surrounding them, and some teachers of religious law were

arguing with them. When the crowd saw Jesus, they were overwhelmed with awe, and they ran to greet him. “What is all this arguing about?” Jesus asked. One of the men in the crowd spoke up and said, “Teacher, I brought my son so you could heal him. He is possessed by an evil spirit that won’t let him talk. And whenever this spirit seizes him, it throws him violently to the ground. Then he foams at the mouth and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked your disciples to cast out the evil spirit, but they couldn’t do it.” Jesus said to them, “You faithless people! How long must I be with you? How long must I put up with you? Bring the boy to me.” So they brought the boy. But when the evil spirit saw Jesus, it threw the child into a violent convulsion, and he fell to the ground, writhing and foaming at the mouth. “How long has this been happening?” Jesus asked the boy’s father. He replied, “Since he

was a little boy. The spirit often throws him into the fire or into water, trying to kill him. Have mercy on us and help us, if you can.” “What do you mean, ‘If I can?’” Jesus asked. “Anything is possible if a person believes.” The father instantly cried out, “I do believe, but help me overcome my unbelief!”

At times, we may need to *ask* the Lord to help us with our unbelief or distrust. We don’t have to just sit there and doubt, thinking there is nothing we can do about the situation. We can trust that His grace can help us. Paul gave an account of his needing to trust God for an impossible-looking situation, and he received this word from the Lord. In 2 Corinthians 12:8, 9, *AMPC*, it states:

Three times I called upon the Lord *and* besought [Him] about this *and* begged that it might depart from me; but He said to me, My grace (My favor and loving-kindness and

mercy) is enough for you [sufficient against any danger and enables you to bear the trouble manfully]; for *My* strength *and* power are made perfect (fulfilled and completed) *and show themselves most effective* in [your] weakness. Therefore, I will all the more gladly glory in my weaknesses *and* infirmities, that the strength *and* power of Christ (the Messiah) may rest (yes, may pitch a tent over and dwell) upon me!

Therefore, we can rest assured trusting that the Lord's grace will guide us to the correct destination. He knows the right path, and when we are on it, He will add His super to our natural, and supernatural things will happen in seemingly impossible situations.

## CHAPTER 2

# Trust is Born Out of Relationship

Just as we develop our trust in others by spending time with them, we learn to trust God the same way. We acknowledge Him and set aside time to focus on Him. Spending time with God regularly in prayer is a way to stay in His presence. We can also worship Him, which is an expression of our trust. All of these activities help us cultivate our relationship with Him.

On the other hand, when we decide to trust our feelings, education, perceptions, or our own way of doing things, we basically say to God, “I don’t trust *your way*.” This is pride. But when we choose to trust God and His Word as an act of our will, no matter what it may look like in the natural, we demonstrate true humility.

### ***MEN AFTER GOD’S OWN HEART***

God described David as “*a man after My own*

*heart*” (Acts 13:22, *NKJV*). I don’t know about you, but I would love for God to call me a man after His own heart! David’s life can teach us a lot about how to cultivate our relationship with God. The psalms are filled with David’s open and honest pleas, requests, acknowledgements, and praise and worship of God. They are personal expressions of his trust that were born out of his relationship with God.

David even came to God wholeheartedly after he sinned. He committed adultery with Bathsheba and had her husband killed after she became pregnant (2 Samuel 11). After Nathan, the prophet, came to David and revealed the sin to him, David immediately cried out to God about the matter, making the situation a personal matter between him and God.

In Psalm 51:1-4, *NLT*, he says, “*Have mercy on me, O God, because of your unfailing love. Because of your great compassion, blot out the stain of my sins. Wash me clean from my guilt. Purify me from*

*my sin. For I recognize my rebellion; it haunts me day and night. Against you, and you alone, have I sinned; I have done what is evil in your sight. You will be proved right in what you say, and your judgment against me is just.”*

Notice he said, “*Against you and you alone, have I sinned.*” Indeed, it is clear that David sinned against many people; Bathsheba, the unborn child, Bathsheba’s husband, and many others were affected by David’s sin. However, when it was exposed, the only one he could think of sinning against the most was God.

Whenever we sin against God, it proves that we have become distracted, and that we are not trusting Him. We’ve become completely occupied with ourselves. However, when we do sin, we should do as David did, and turn to God concerning the matter. David didn’t live under the covenant of grace that we do. We are the ones to whom he referred when he

said, *“Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord does not impute iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit”* (Psalm 32:1, 2, NKJV). Romans 4:6-8 reinforces the truth that because God has already forgiven all of our past, present, and future sins, we can thank Him for His forgiveness and for the Holy Spirit’s assistance with making better choices in the future.

Joseph is another example of a person who trusted God; and his trust was born out of his relationship with Him. Because he endured such hardship at such a young age, Joseph could have easily rebelled against God. He could have committed adultery and used the excuse that his brothers sold him into slavery. Many people use their hurt and rejection as reasons for rebellion and sin; however, Joseph would not allow those things to damage his relationship with God. When Potiphar’s wife tried to seduce him, he could have reasoned that no one would find out

about it or that he deserved to do such a thing for all the hardship he endured. Instead, Joseph took sinning against God seriously. He refused to submit to temptation, and ran from Potiphar's wife repeatedly. He openly and honestly confronted her about the situation, saying to her, "*My master trusts me with everything in his entire household. No one here has more authority than I do. He has held back nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How could I do such a wicked thing? It would be a great sin against God.*" (Genesis 39:8, 9, NLT). Though she continued to pressure Joseph, he never gave in to her advances. Eventually, she became angry and lied about him, saying that he tried to rape her, and Joseph was sent to prison. "*But the Lord was with Joseph in the prison and showed him his faithful love. And the Lord made Joseph a favorite with the prison warden*" (Genesis 39:21, NLT).

For Joseph, it wasn't about his own desires, nor was it about whether he would get caught. He valued

his relationship with God, and knew that adultery was evil in God's sight. He didn't want to dishonor God, and he was blessed because of that stance. The prison warden put Joseph in charge of all the other prisoners and everything that happened in the prison. *"The warden had no more worries, because Joseph took care of everything. The Lord was with him and caused everything he did to succeed"* (Genesis 39:23, NLT).

## **CHAPTER 3**

# **First Base is the Word**

I always tell people, “The Holy Spirit will save you time and money.” Since He directs us in line with the Word, we must know what the Word says in order to recognize the Holy Spirit’s promptings. If we want to receive revelation from God that will eliminate chaos in our lives, we cannot neglect the study of His written Word. It is vital to have knowledge of God’s Word. It will escort us into intimate places with God, and within those intimate places, we will recognize His leading.

Revelation, or wisdom, that comes from God is critical to our success. Wisdom is knowing what to do when you don’t know what to do. Revelation is the key to breakthrough and gives advantages that are not found in the world because the God-kind of success is unlimited and immeasurable. Mere knowledge without revelation is limited, at its best.

Therefore, we cannot lose when we receive a Rhema Word from the Lord.

***THE WORD INSTRUCTS US IN THE  
BASIC DOCTRINES OF GOD***

Galatians 1:8, *AMPC*, says, “*But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to and different from that which we preached to you, let him be accursed (anathema, devoted to destruction, doomed to eternal punishment)! ”*

The Word instructs us in the basic doctrines, or teachings, of God. The more time we spend reading, studying, and meditating on God’s Word, the more we will develop the ability to distinguish between truth and error.

For instance, I once counseled a Christian woman who insisted that the Lord told her to marry an unsaved man, but that did not line up with the Word. God’s Word tells us not to be unequally *yoked* with unbelievers (2 Corinthians 6:14). This woman had allowed the voice

of the enemy to deceive her and lead her away from the truth and into error. The enemy is always seeking to lead us in a direction that will destroy us.

When a Christian is deceived, I often wonder how much time that person has spent in the Word. Apparently he or she hasn't spent enough time in the Word to distinguish God's leading from the lying voices of Satan. However, we can prepare to receive wisdom from the Lord by spending time reading and studying His Word. Many times, our desires cannot be trusted; they can lead us to destruction. We have to humble and discipline ourselves to find out what the Word says about a certain situation. If we don't, our selfishness will take over, and allow the enemy to take advantage of our lack of knowledge of the Word.

### ***THE WORD HELPS US PERCEIVE SPIRITUAL REALITY***

As human beings, we are comprised of three parts. We are spirit beings at the core; we have a soul,

and we live in a physical body. First Thessalonians 5:23 states, “*And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*”

The spirit is completely recreated at the point of salvation. We were made new creatures in Christ when we became born again. Second Corinthians 5:17 says, “*Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*” The transformation that took place within our spirits has to work its way into our souls and bodies. For instance, when I became a born again Christian, my spirit became new, but my mind and body stayed the same. It is my responsibility to make both my mind and body line up with my spirit.

Andrew Wommack, in his online article *Spirit, Soul and Body*, wrote:

*“In your soul, old things did not pass away, and all things haven’t yet become new. For that reason, you could actually die from sickness or disease even though all the power that raised Jesus from the dead is residing untapped within your spirit. It’s like dying of thirst while leaning against a well full of life-giving water. Think of your soul like the valve on a faucet: it controls the rate and volume of the flow of the spirit into your body. If your mind is renewed and in agreement with the Word, the valve is wide open. But if it is in agreement with what your body is feeling or what your emotions are experiencing, then the valve is closed to God’s life in your spirit.”*

The soul is comprised of the mind, will, emotions, and imagination. When most people refer to someone’s personality, they are actually referring to the soul. The central control center of the soul is the mind. Therefore, the mind is the battlefield and

will determine whether or not we have victory or defeat in our Christian lives.

This is why the Bible instructs us to renew our minds with God's Word. The Word keeps us in God's perfect will for our lives. Romans 12:2, *AMPC*, says, *“Do not be conformed to this world (this age), [fashioned after and adapted to its external, superficial customs], but be transformed (changed) by the [entire] renewal of your mind [by its new ideals and its new attitude], so that you may prove [for yourselves] what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God, even the thing which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His sight for you].”*

Renewing our minds is imperative so we can tap into the resources within our spirits. We have to decide to believe the Word of God despite what goes on in the natural realm. The Word of God is compared to a mirror. *“For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in*

*a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed”* (James 1:23-25). When we look into a mirror, we can see our reflections. We trust these reflections so much that we rely on them to fix our hair and make other necessary adjustments to our appearances. Likewise, we should trust the Word of God in the same manner. When we look into the mirror of the Word, we will see our true identity. It reveals our spiritual reality and shows us what our spirits look like.

The born-again spirit is the part of us that is like God. Our spirits believe the Word and agree with it. That’s the only part of us where God can reside. From our spirits flow the revealed knowledge of God. However, if our minds are not aligned with our spirits, we will dismiss the knowledge we receive and, instead, rely on our own thoughts.

Some Christians allow their sensual desires to lead and guide them instead of the Holy Spirit. They govern themselves primarily by their senses. Our senses are designed to help us interact in this physical world, only. They should not be leading our lives. Instead, our lives should be governed by the Word. By being anchored in the Word, we won't be moved by trials and tribulations. The Word helps us remember that, by God's grace, our needs are abundantly supplied. Additionally, 2 Corinthians 9:8, *AMPC*, states, "*And God is able to make grace (every favor and earthly blessing) come to you in abundance, so that you may always and under all circumstances and whatever the need be self-sufficient [possessing enough to require no aid or support and furnished in abundance for every good work and charitable donation].*" The Word is our seed, and it grows within us. As a result, when the attack comes, Satan is defeated quickly because we are established in the Word of God.

## CHAPTER 4

# Trust God, Not Money

Jesus taught on finances more than He taught on prayer and faith. He knew money would be the only thing that could tempt us to trust it more than Him. Money is something we could serve, meditate on, and give priority to if we do not take heed to His warnings. He said in Matthew 6:33, *“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”* His kingdom and righteousness should be our primary concern, not money.

Money alone is not evil. Its use is determined by who is holding it. Therefore, it can be used to hurt people or help them. It all depends on the motives of the person who has it. While money itself isn't evil, the love of it is.

First Timothy 6:10, *AMPC*, states, *“For the love of money is a root of all evils; it is through this craving*

*that some have been led astray and have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves through with many acute [mental] pangs.”* The love of money describes a wrong relationship with it. When we trust it as our ultimate source, we will give it priority in our lives. It will take the place of God, and we, as a result, will allow it to rule our every move, motive, and desire. The lack of trust in God is indicated by a love for money, and it is the root of all evil. This is not a money issue, but a heart issue.

### ***HONORING GOD WITH OUR MONEY***

Abram proved that he honored and trusted God, not money. How? He repeatedly expressed that money was not his God, his priority, or his source. For example, when his nephew, Lot, was captured by his enemy’s army, God gave Abram the victory. With 318 trained servants from his household, Abram pursued, defeated the enemy, and took back what was stolen. Genesis 14:18-20, *NLT*, states, “*And Melchizedek, the king of Salem and a priest*

*of God Most High, brought Abram some bread and wine. Melchizedek blessed Abram with this blessing. 'Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth. And blessed be God Most High, who has defeated your enemies for you.' Then Abram gave Melchizedek a tenth of all the goods he had recovered."* Abram both honored and trusted God with his wealth. He didn't make riches a big deal. He didn't need a law to tell him to tell him to tithe. He did so freely, out of a grateful heart.

The king of Sodom tried to offer Abram all of the goods from the battle, but he didn't accept it. "*Abram replied to the king of Sodom, "I solemnly swear to the Lord, God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth, that I will not take so much as a single thread or sandal thong from what belongs to you. Otherwise you might say, 'I am the one who made Abram rich'"*" (Genesis 14:22, 23, *NLT*).

Abram, whom God later renamed Abraham,

was a very rich man. He knew God had made him wealthy—not the spoils of battle or kings, not his business tactics or intellect—he gave *all* the credit to God. Therefore, God carried much weight in his life. He honored God, not only in his finances, but with everything. When we honor God with our finances, we prove to *ourselves* who we trust and honor. Proverbs 3:9, 10, *AMPC*, says, “*Honor the Lord with your capital and sufficiency [from righteous labors] and with the firstfruits of all your income; so shall your storage places be filled with plenty, and your vats shall be overflowing with new wine.*”

When we honor God with our finances, we are saying that nothing or no one is greater than Him and His ability to take care of us; nothing and no one carries more weight. As I said earlier, it’s a heart issue. Tithes and offerings aren’t about trying to buy His favor or right standing with Him. They’re about knowing our stance with Him. The gratitude, praise, and worship of our hearts lead us to give. The trust

necessary to reach this level of your Christian walk is only born out of a relationship with Him.

God wants a relationship with us first and foremost. He wants us to see Him as our primary source for everything we will ever need in life. He wants to be the one we trust the most, the one we turn to *first* for everything. When we rely on Him, we begin to know Him. Eventually, we will recognize the promptings of the Holy Spirit and operate on a higher level in life. In other words, we'll leave the outer court of our relationship with Him and enter into the inner court. Then, as we get to know Him on a more intimate level, He invites us behind the veil, where the secret and deep things of God are revealed. By making the Word our final authority and making a quality decision to place our faith in God at all costs, we'll experience His best in every situation.



Creflo Dollar Ministries • P.O. Box 490124 • College Park, GA 30349  
(866) 477-7683 • [crefloodollarministries.org](http://crefloodollarministries.org)  
© & © 2016 by Creflo Dollar. All rights reserved.