

Safe Crossing to a Better Future

Young children need the protection of adults as their curiosity and lack of experience can get them into some dangerous situations. A young child crossing a busy street with the help of an adult is an excellent example of trusting someone else. The adult often holds the hand of the young child before they even reach the intersection and keeps hold throughout the crossing. Without the loving restraint the child is at risk of impatiently darting out into traffic. Or perhaps sensing the danger, he is afraid to cross at all. In most situations the child willingly gives up control to the adult. They trust the adult at their side.

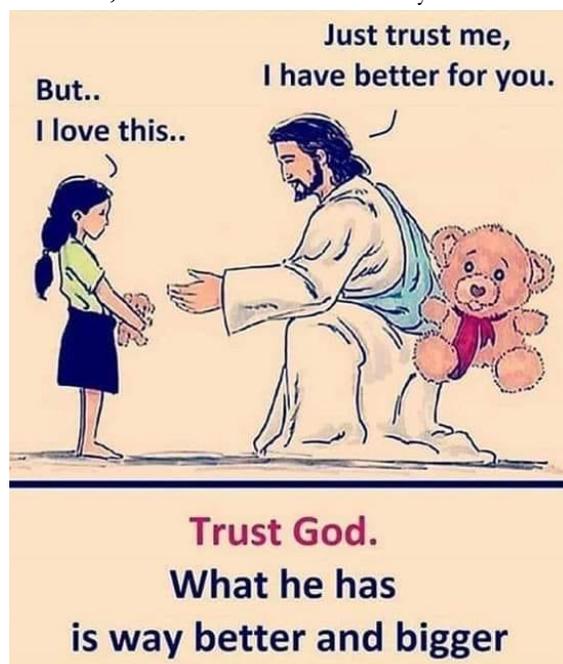


If only we handled situations as well as the young child at a busy street corner. It is human nature for adults to want to be in control, unaware of the dangers ahead. We know what we want to happen and may have tunnel-vision, tuning out other options. Our culture today is all about control, suggesting that “trusting the Lord is that God knows what *we* want and will grant every wish.” We want a genie at our disposal, so that we get our way.

The dictionary sets us straight on the definition of trust. It says trust is the “firm belief in the reliability, truth, ability, or strength of someone or something.” No human is nearly as reliable, truthful or has the ability and strength as God. But there is more. God can look into the future and knows what is best for us. We want the genie that appears when we rub a magic lamp, for the sole purpose of granting our wishes. Like the classic TV show, *I Dream of Jeannie*, the genie (played by Barbara Eden) appears on demand to grant the wish. She says dutifully, “Your wish is my command.” But, there are unintended consequences to human choices. What is asked of the genie is our wish and not necessarily the best solution for the future. We don’t know the future – but God does.

The path to trust starts with faith. Christian writer *Max Lucado* says, “*But faith is the conviction that God knows more than we do about this life and he will get us through it.*”

Trust is giving up control to God and accepting that He truly knows what is best. *Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight (Proverbs 3:5-6).* When we trust we no longer seek our answer, but the right answer.



Seek God’s hand as you cross the streets of life. He knows what is best and His way is better and bigger than you could ever imagine.

Question: Name an example of when you trusted God with a dilemma and the results turned out better than you could ever imagine.

Prayer: Loving Father. Giving up control is difficult for us. We know what we want to happen. But, You know what is going to happen and what is best for us. Help us to trust You with our life. Amen.