

and our love for the source of the trouble. But we dare not return to our old methods for the remedy. We dare not try twisting our own arms to force us to greater love and trust, nor yet twisting the arm of God to give them to us. Instead we must come to rest in His love, there to receive His free gifts of grace, even the fruit of the Spirit: LOVE, joy,

**TO LOVE IS TO TRUST  
TO TRUST IS TO OBEY**

peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, FAITH, meekness, and temperance.

There we will come to know as living truth and reality:

1) To the extent to which we really trust God, to obey Him will be that easy. Trusting Him, we know His will and way is best. His choices for us do us good. In contrast our opposing choices bring only harm and hurt.

2) If we really trust God, we need never complain at anything He allows, no, nor fear it, for it can bring only our eternal benefit.

3) Its better far to be misled by our consciences, should it come to that, than to offend and grieve them, and lose our confidence toward God.

4) Its better far, as our Lord suggested, to amputate the offending member than to suffer selfishness, sin, rebellion, and disobedience to rule in our lives.

What is the difference?

Simple yet profound.

Actually earth shaking!

LOVE!

Love that leads to trust.

Trust that leads to obedience.

But, remember where we began. Only love is obedience. I could hack myself to pieces and be not one whit closer to pleasing my God, rather further away.

How is love generated In the Christian heart? More than in any other way by resting in His love, beginning with times alone with Him. There learn to rest in His life too, letting His life flow through yours as you become trustingly, restfully, peacefully, quietly receptive of His love and His Life.

LIFE.

His life replacing yours.

Oh, glory!

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**REALLY  
TRUSTING  
GOD!**

—  
*A Key to  
Revival*

By Pastor Ron Marr

“No matter what you preach, all you are really saying is, ‘Trust and Obey.’”

This is an oft-repeated adage that I have often questioned.

That they are both at the bottom line of the Christian life, however, can't be doubted. Nor that they are directly related.

Real obedience, that is.

**OUR OBEDIENCE WILL GO NO  
FURTHER THAN OUR TRUST.**

## REALLY TRUSTING GOD! - A KEY TO REVIVAL

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You see, this has always been my quarrel with obedience. It can be merely superficial obediences after the style of the Pharisees.

Of course, that isn't obedience at all! For the first and great commandment, the royal commandment is

### **ONLY LOVE IS OBEDIENCE**

LOVE!

More on that in a moment, but first let's look at trust.

We say the New Testament makes it clear that we get what we get from God only by faith. Now, incidentally, that reflects our basic problem, our utter selfishness. About all we think about is what we can get!

We say to the unsaved that Christianity is not a religion but a relationship. Then we immediately proceed to junk the relationship in favor of religion when it comes to living the Christian life.

We try to pray faith down or work it up. We twist our own arms in the hope that we can somehow coerce ourselves into believing that God is going to do for us, to give us, what WE want.

I've been reaching out to a hurting divorcee whose preacher husband ran around until she could stand it no more. She'd "believed God to save her marriage." He hadn't done it. And, of

course, she's having a difficult time learning what real trust in God is all about.

But then, so are most of us.

Trust is merely a matter of finding its object trustworthy. To place our trust in the untrustworthy is to play the fool. To trust one who is trustworthy is to do the obvious.

### **WHAT PASSES FOR FAITH IS FREQUENTLY MERELY WISHFUL THINKING**

So the question is simply, "Is God trustworthy?"

No.

Not if we judge him by the human standards to which we so often subject Him.

But He isn't obligated to please me, to make me happy, to give me what I want, to keep me from suffering and pain of all kinds, to make life easy and comfortable. Instead He makes it clear that it is often in discomfort and suffering that He is best able to give me His truly best gift. . .Himself!

Now, to pretend to "have faith" when, quite honestly, we have found Him untrustworthy is to be dishonest, even hypocritical.

What, then, is the alternative?

The fact is, of course, that He is trustworthy. When we get to know Him

personally in His Word and in the times apart in intimate fellowship we get to understand and accept His trustworthiness. We get to know that no matter what our still-deceitful hearts may ac-

### **THE ALTERNATIVE IS GETTING TO KNOW HIM**

cuse Him of, He can never let us down, not really.

In His love He can never wish to let us down. In His omnipotence He is never put in a position where He is forced to let us down.

It really is a fact, that He does arrange all things so they work together for our eternal good, just as Romans 8:28 says.

We don't go to our prayer times apart to ask or demand for our selfish selves. We go there first and foremost just to rest in His love. This may involve worship, and praise, and thanksgiving. It may involve reading the Word of God, studying it, meditating on it. It may involve meditating on Him, His wondrous person, beauty, and character.

### **THE ALTERNATIVE IS LOVE**

But, above all else, it is a time of resting in the wonder of His love.

It's in resting in His love that our selfish misconceptions and expectations best fade and our trust in Him best grows.

So, when we have trouble obeying, we need look only as far as our trust