



Issue 63 – February 15, 2017

The Naz Prayer Ministry



## The Gauge of Faith, part 2

There is a story about a man who took his young son into the woods for a ritual to mark his passage into manhood. The son was to be blindfolded and required to sit on a stump all night alone. He was not to make any noise or leave the stump. Only in the morning could he remove his blindfold.

As the boy listened to the sounds of the night all around him, he was naturally nervous, even fearful. What was out there? Would some animal attack him? Yet he did what was expected of him, and gradually he could hear the woods come alive with the dawn of the new day.

He reached for his blindfold, removed it, and only then discovered that he had not be alone after all. Sitting on the ground beside him was his dad who had been there all along.

The son was willing to do what the father had asked even in the face of fear, because he trusted his dad enough to obey even when he had to face the unknown.

Trust.

Perhaps more than any other single factor, trust affects the quality of our lives. And in the realm of prayer, the nature and degree of our trust level is paramount.

Let's look carefully at Proverbs 3:5-6.

Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding.  
Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.

The dictionary says *trust* is a “firm belief in reliability, truth, ability or strength.” Trust in God is firm confidence that He is capable of doing what He says, evidence of our faith in His sovereignty.

Hebrew literature is filled with the poetic pattern of parallel expressions. One verse or line is followed by a second that expresses the same thought or extends the thought in different words, adding to the nuance of the message. In this case:

*trust – seek*

Seeking is an extension of trust.

*all your heart – all you do*

What I do is the extension of what is in my heart.

*depend on your own understanding – vs – he will show you*

What I can see and know pales against what He sees and knows and wants to share with me.

Let this verse be imprinted in our hearts and may these words anchor us to a life of trust.

## Taking Our Next Step Together

Lord, teach me to trust.

I confess that I have failed, sometimes often, to seek you and discover your will and purpose. May the absence of seeking you be remedied with the fresh fire of faith that emboldens me to embrace a life of trust. Where my heart has been hesitant, may I discover the boldness of life in the serenity of realizing anew that your sovereignty is filled with your grace. Let me discover more and more, day by day, that You are the Sovereign Lord whose only purpose is to share yourself with me.