



Trusting God

in the Midst of Uncertainty

How many of us would say that life is always a sure thing, and that you always know what's going to happen next? I would suspect none of us do. If we did, things like surprise parties wouldn't be as much fun as they are.

The truth is that life is uncertain. A few weeks ago the stock market experienced the biggest drop since 9/11. While it rebounded the next few days and made up some lost ground, on the day the market crashed people were uncertain about what the future held for our economy, and many were panicking.

Financial security can be unpredictable. Yet that's not all. Sometimes big uncertainties surround your practice, or your home, or your health, or your family. In the midst of trials, it's easy to feel lost, apprehensive, or even abandoned.

During those times we need to remember that God's love and grace are certainties in an otherwise uncertain world. As Christians, we can place our hope and trust in the God who will be there for us. And our faith in Christ - the solid Rock on which we stand - can be a source of strength and stability.

Do you remember the Old Testament account of Gideon? He lived in a time when his country was frequently invaded by an army from Midian. One day, as he was working, he heard God calling him to save his nation from these invaders. Gideon said, "God, how's can I do that? I come from the least important clan, and I'm the least important in my family."

God's answer was, "Just do it. I'll be with you." You might remember that was just too much uncertainty for Gideon. He wanted more proof. He wanted more answers. He wanted it all laid out before he would agree to anything. He went so far as to twice ask God for a sign that God would be with him.

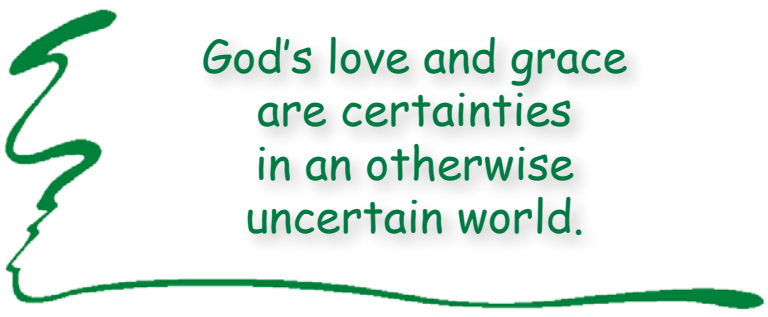
Once Gideon felt confident that God was with him, he made plans to defeat the Midians. Even though there was still a lot of uncertainty, Gideon pushed ahead and eventually drove the invaders from the land. As Gideon matured in the faith, he was able to trust God more and more. As he grew in his faith, he was able to leave the outcome in God's hands.

In the Letter to the Hebrews, we find the definition of faith. In 11:1 we read, "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for; the evidence of things not seen." (NKJV) This is what faith is: it's seeing God in the circumstances around us and trusting God's promises even when the world around us appears to be falling apart. The writer of Hebrews said the ancients were commended for this.

If we keep reading Hebrews, chapter 11, we find a number of saints who were victorious in their faith. Men and women like Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Rahab, David, and Samuel. We also read that there were those who trusted in God, but who experienced only difficulty. These were the saints who, the writer of Hebrews says, were tortured and thrown in prison. Others were jeered and mistreated. And some were even put to death. Yet, we can read that they were all commended for their faith. They knew that God was faithful, no matter what happened to them.

Jim Berg, in his book *Changed into His Image*, writes, "All the believers listed in Hebrews 11 kept their face turned toward God for fellowship, comfort, and strength during difficult times. They would let nothing pull their hearts away from Him. This is why they are called heroes of the Faith." (Page 196)

What I find interesting is that as we mature in the



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faith, God expects more and more from us. Just as a parent expects more from their child as the child grows up, so too God expects we ought to be able to handle more. That means we ought to be able to handle more uncertainty, and also be willing to accept that sometimes things turn out differently than we may initially desire. You may not like the sound of that, but that's

Continued next page,

Trusting God, concluded,
how it works in God's world.

On a regular basis the CCA will receive news of members who have recently experienced tragedy in their lives. Loved ones have died. Doctors have been diagnosed with serious diseases. Practices have financially struggled. Malpractice suits have been filed. Marriages are struggling. Children have wandered down the path of the Prodigal.

All these calamities speak of the uncertainty of life, and our prayers go out to all who are persevering through these and other trials. The good news is that we can trust God, even in the face of uncertainty. Remember, the Apostle Paul writes in Romans, chapter 8, that we are more than conquerors through God who loves us.

Throughout human history God calls men and women to leave the comfort and security they know, and journey with Him into the unknown. Faith is all about trusting God, even in the face of the unknown. It's being able to trust God and leave the outcome in God's hands. It's willing to say to God, as Jesus did in the Garden of Gethsemane, "*Not my will, but thy will be done.*"

As we journey through Holy Week and towards the Cross of Good Friday, a dark day when uncertainty abounded, may we remember the Resurrection victory of Sunday morning. In Christ's Resurrection we can find hope, which is far greater than any trial we will ever face on this earth, as well as the assurance of eternal life.

As you celebrate our Savior's Resurrection on Easter, may God bless you and your family.

Brian K. Scharf



Short-Term Missions PRAYER CALENDAR

BAJA, MEXICO — *(Team members needed)*
May 18th - 20th, 2007
July 13th - 15th, 2007
Sept 13th - 16th, 2007

POLAND — Team - April 26, - May 3rd, 2007
Dr. Gerald Zelm
Dr. Alan Zelm
Dr. James Olszewski
(Team members welcome)

CROW NATION — June 21st - 27th, 2007
Dr. Marc Sommer
(Team members welcome)

JAMAICA Fall Teams
— Nov. 10th - 17th, 2007
— Nov. 24th - Dec. 1st, 2007
(Team members welcome)

Visit the CCA website for additional information:
www.christianchiropractors.org - (STM Opportunites)

