



# Just Trust Me – Trusting The Church

October 22, 2023

Trust

noun – “assured reliance on the character, ability, strength, or truth of someone or something.” ~ Merriam & Webster.com

Trust

verb - “to believe someone is good and honest and will not harm you, or that something is safe and reliable.” ~ Cambridge Dictionary

Human beings are naturally predisposed to trust – it’s in our genes and our childhood learning – and by in large it’s a survival mechanism that has served our species well. That said, our willingness often gets us into trouble. Moreover, we sometimes have difficulty distinguishing trustworthy people from untrustworthy ones. At a species level, that doesn’t matter much so long as more people are trustworthy than not. At the individual level, though, it can be a real problem. ~ Roderick M. Kramer

## 5 Essentials of Trust

Understanding

Motive

Ability

Character

Track Record

## What is “The Church”?

And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”  
Matthew 16:18-19 NIV

Ekklēsia – a called out assembly – a purposeful gathering



## Trusting the Church

### 5 Essentials of Trust

#### Understanding

There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. Romans 3:22-24 NIV

#### Motive

For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. 2 Corinthians 5:14-15 NIV

So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:<sup>[a]</sup> The old has gone, the new is here! 2 Corinthians 5:16-17 NIV

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. 2 Corinthians 5:18-19 NIV

And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. 2 Corinthians 5:19-20 NIV

#### Ability

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. Ephesians 3:20-21 NIV

#### Character

Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch. Acts 11:25-26 NIV

#### Track Record

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1:3-5 NIV