

Essential Foundations

The Foundation of Trust

Pastor Jimmy Evans

Sunday, October 5, 2025

The Foundation of Trust

Essential Foundations: Series Introduction

Hebrews 6:1–3 (NKJV)

Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary *principles* of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. And this we will do if God permits.

Three Reasons for Foundations

1. Safety
2. Unexpected stress

Luke 6:46–49 (NIV)

Why do you call me, “Lord, Lord,” and do not do what I say? As for everyone who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice, I will show you what they are like. They are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built. But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete.

3. The Superstructure

2 Timothy 4:1–4 (NKJV)

I charge *you* therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: Preach the word! Be ready in season *and* out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, *because* they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn *their* ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

Week One: The Foundation of Trust

Hebrews 6:1-2 (NKJV)

Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary *principles* of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God...

Truth # 1: We are not free agents.

1 Corinthians 6:18–20 (NKJV)

Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

James 4:13–16 (NKJV)

Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit”; whereas you do not know what *will happen* tomorrow. For what *is* your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. Instead you *ought* to say, “If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that.” But now you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil.

Whatever God initiates, He will energize.

Truth #2: We are totally incapable of running our own lives.

John 10:7–10 (NKJV)

Then Jesus said to them again, “Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who *ever* came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.”

Psalms 23:1-6 (NKJV)

The Lord *is* my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You *are* with me. Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the Lord Forever.

2 Corinthians 12:7–10 (NKJV)

And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in

infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

The first step toward maturity and our destiny is embracing our weakness and dependence upon God.

Truth #3: God created us with a detailed plan and purpose for our lives, and only He can guide us there.

Psalms 139:13–18 (NKJV)

For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise You, for I am fearfully *and* wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And *that* my soul knows very well. My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, *And* skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me, When *as yet there were* none of them. How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them! *If* I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand; When I awake, I am still with You.

Truth #4: God is the perfect Father, He loves us more than we love ourselves, and He will bless us more than we will bless ourselves if we will trust Him.

Matthew 6:25–33 (NKJV)

Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? “So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, *will He* not much more *clothe* you, O you of little faith? “Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or

‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

1 John 4:18–19 (NKJV)

There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love. We love Him because He first loved us.

Small Group Guide: The Foundation of Trust

Opening Question

Has trusting God been easier for you, or more challenging? Why?

The Starting Point of Spiritual Maturity

The journey toward spiritual maturity begins with trust. Not just trust in God's character, but trust in His design for how we grow and live as disciples. Hebrews 6 tells us that certain elementary truths form the necessary groundwork for this growth. Without them, our progress will stall — not because God is withholding something, but because He cares too much to build on a shaky foundation.

These foundational truths provide three key things: **spiritual safety**, **stability under pressure**, and **capacity for purpose**. They protect us from deception in a world full of conflicting voices. They prepare us for life's storms, which are guaranteed to come. And they make room for the weight of our calling — the unique role each of us is meant to carry in God's Kingdom.

One of the core realizations we must embrace is that **we don't belong to ourselves**. Following Jesus means surrendering our independence and learning to live by His will, not our own. This is where trust becomes essential: trusting God's leadership, His timing, and His provision. When He initiates something in our lives, He also sustains it. Trust isn't passive — it's the foundation for active, obedient faith.

For Discussion:

1. Look back at the notes. Which of the three reasons for needing a solid foundation — safety, stress, or superstructure — most challenges or encourages you right now?
2. What does it practically look like to “trust God” in your everyday life? Are there areas where trust is difficult?
3. Have you ever experienced a “spiritual stall” — a time when it felt like you couldn't move forward with God? What helped you regain momentum?

4. How do you personally hear or discern when God is initiating something? How do you respond?
5. What would change in your life if you lived fully from the truth that “you are not your own, but bought with a price”?

Group Activation

Take a few minutes in stillness together and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal one foundational area in your life that He wants to strengthen.

Then pray in pairs or small clusters — asking God for grace to trust Him more deeply in that area, and for the courage to build upon His truth.

Optional Next Step: As a group, commit to memorizing Hebrews 6:1–2 or Luke 6:47–48 this week as a reminder of what it means to build wisely and securely.