

Friend of Sinners Trustworthy

March 22, 2020 / Chris Johnson and Dan Solofra

In a world of uncertainty, how do I figure out who or what to trust?

- _____
- _____
- _____

¹⁸ While he was saying this, **a synagogue leader** came and **knelt before** him and said, “My daughter has just died. But come and put your hand on her, and **she will live.**” ¹⁹ Jesus got up and went with him, and so did his disciples. **Matthew 9:18-19, NIV**

⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil,
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Psalm 23:4, NIV

At some point, no matter _____,
the issues of life will bring you to your _____.
Even in the darkest valley, Jesus offers _____.

²⁰ **Just then** a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak. ²¹ She said to herself, “**If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed.**” **Matthew 9:20-21, NIV**

²⁵ “When a woman has a discharge of blood for many days at a time other than her monthly period or has a discharge that continues beyond her period, she will be unclean as long as she has the discharge, just as in the days of her period. . . . ²⁷ Anyone who touches them will be unclean; **Leviticus 15:25,27a, NIV**

Sometimes the problems of life _____ us.

Even when we have exhausted all other options,
Jesus offers _____.

²² Jesus turned and saw her. “Take heart, daughter,” he said, “**your faith has healed you.**” And the woman was healed at that moment. **Matthew 9:22, NIV**

Jesus is worthy of trust based on personal _____
and historical _____.

²³ When Jesus entered the synagogue leader’s house and saw the noisy crowd and people playing pipes, ²⁴ he said, “Go away. The girl is not dead but asleep.” **But they laughed at him. Matthew 9:23-24, NIV**

There will always be those who _____ at God and
his ability to help.

²⁵ After the crowd had been put outside, **he went in and took the girl by the hand, and she got up.** ²⁶ News of this spread through all that region. **Matthew 9:25-26, NIV**

³⁰ Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that **by believing you may have life in his name.** **John 20:30-31, NIV**

Jesus shows his _____ to help in every situation.
He is worthy of your trust in _____ and in _____.

MEMORY VERSE

⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil,
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Psalm 23:4, NIV

My next step: Jesus proves himself worthy of my trust. No matter what issue I face in my life, I will turn to him for help and healing.

What’s your next step today?

Mark it on your Communication Card.

Impact Group Questions

Friend of Sinners – Trustworthy

Getting Started: If you were going to write a 5-star Yelp review for your favorite place to eat or shop, which would you choose and why?

Going Back to Sunday

Each week we will begin with the same question, “**What about the message from Sunday had the most meaning or made the biggest impact on you?**” Take time to answer this question as you listen to each message. Bring your sermon notes to class each week to help you remember.

Back to Sunday:

Read: Mathew 9:18-22

It is most likely that that this man and woman exhausted all other options before they went to Jesus. (The daughter was already dead – the woman had been sick for 12 years!) Do you think people tend to go to God as a last resort? Why or Why not?

Agree or Disagree: Sooner or later all the earthly things we trust to protect us are going to let us down.

Have you found this to be true by personal experience in your life?

This woman was isolated because of her condition. Anyone or anything she touched would immediately become ceremonially unclean. Has being quarantined because of the COVID-19 made you feel isolated or just “off”? Why or why not?

Read: Matthew 9:23-26

The first reaction of the people at the home with the dead girl was to laugh at Jesus. When are times we tend to doubt Jesus’ ability or willingness to help?

Jesus shows himself to be worthy of our trust by continuing to be reliable over time. How has Jesus been trustworthy in your life? (or have you given the credit to someone else?)

Doing Life Together:

We are in a situation where it is going to be more difficult to do life together. What are **tools** you can use to make sure everyone in your group feels support? How can you make an impact on your neighbors and friends to make sure they feel **connected**?

My Next Step:

Right now our elders and staff are trying to make sure every person in the church is contacted through a group leader, elder or staff member. Who is someone you can reach out to in this time who is isolated or alone? Take time to reach out to them.

Prayer:

In the prayer section we encourage you to take about 10 minutes to pray as a group. Include the issues of prayer and praise from above. Set aside about 10 minutes so it doesn’t feel rushed. Go around in a circle with each person praying, a person may say, “pass” if they are uncomfortable praying out loud.

Friendship:

Spend the final 10 to 15 minutes of group catching up with other group members. Take time to get to know those you don’t know quite as well. Make sure to include everyone in the group.

Reminders:

We are not going to be having church in person for at least a few more weeks. You will need to stay in touch through many online avenues. Make sure you receive the weekly email (register at www.cwlc.church all the way at the bottom of the page), keep coming to a virtual group, consider Facebook, Twitter and Instagram as ways to stay in touch.

In the issues you face this week, go to God first with your concerns and worry. He is trustworthy. He will always be with you.