

Time to Trust

By RLD Editorial Team

for use as
STEP 1

**Lesson 8****Focus:**

Be willing to totally trust God.

Lesson 8**Bible Basis:**

Acts 20:22-24;
21:1-19, 27-33

Lesson 8**Memory Verse:**

We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.
—Romans 8:28

In order to introduce the lesson topic of being willing to totally trust God, students will look at the things they trust in their daily lives as they watch/discuss a brief movie clip.

Materials:

- None

In a lot of ways, everything we do depends on trust. In school, you trust that your teachers are giving you information that's both accurate and important. At home, you trust your parents in more ways than you can probably think of!

- **Who can think of an example of ways you exercise trust on a daily basis?** (Be prepared to give your own examples to help prompt discussion.)

Especially in a global pandemic, we have to exercise trust about a lot of things, such as trusting that people who are sick will stay home or trusting that public surfaces are disinfected.

- **Does anyone you know trust or depend on you?** (Answers will vary. Students may recognize that their parents trust them with tasks. They may discuss friends who have trusted them with secrets and teammates who depend on them during a sports event.)

Most of the trust we exhibit in our daily lives involves pretty ordinary things. Being trustworthy involves integrity, such as doing what we say we are going to do. Traveling in the midst of a global pandemic involves trusting that airline staff are following regulations and trusting that other passengers are healthy. But what happens when not everyone is trustworthy?

You may have heard a recent story of a man flying on a plane, even though he knowingly had COVID-19. This man, Mr. Hernandez, chose to travel in spite of being sick. Tragically, due to health complications at the high altitude of the plane, he passed away on the plane. Although this story is tragic, it illustrates real consequences of not being

trustworthy. Because Mr. Hernandez chose to fly when he wasn't healthy, he exposed staff and other passengers to the virus, experienced severe health complications, and even lost his life!

➤ **If the man had been honest about his illness and chosen not to travel, what could have happened?** (Possible answers: staying alive, no health complications from the altitude of the plane, keeping other passengers safe and healthy.)

Today's lesson is about how someone trusted God in both ordinary and extraordinary ways. Let's learn more.

Story source: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/12/22/us/united-airlines-covid-death-lax.html>

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

Time to Trust

for use as
STEP 4 

Lesson 8**Focus:**

Be willing to totally trust God.

Lesson 8**Bible Basis:**

Acts 20:22-24;
21:1-19, 27-33

Lesson 8**Memory Verse:**

We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.
—Romans 8:28

Materials:

- Index cards (1 per student)
- Pens/pencils (1 per student)

As students finish their Step 3 exercise, continue discussing the lesson. If your class is meeting online, invite your students to bring a pen/pencil and index card with them to class.

- **Why was Paul willing to totally trust God?** (Answer: He wanted to see the gospel preached.)
- **How did Paul's trust help him?** (Answers may vary; encourage discussion).

Paul knew that the only way he could complete his mission of preaching the gospel was to completely trust God. We talked before about “everyday” trust, but I wonder if any of you can think of examples a little more out of the ordinary.

- **Has anyone ever experienced an extreme situation where trust was absolutely necessary?** (Encourage discussion and sharing, being sensitive to anyone who might be recounting a traumatic experience.)
- **How did trust help you in your situation?** (Answers may vary.)

I hope you never find yourselves in a tragic or scary situation, but we'll always find areas of our lives that require continual trust in God.

Hand out index cards and permanent markers to your students. If your class is meeting online, invite them to have those items ready. If your class is meeting in person, divide the class up into groups of two or three students each. If your class is meeting online, you can have the discussion as a big group or use a break-out room feature on your video chat software. For the rest of your time together, have your preteens discuss areas in their lives that require them to trust God.

Think about what situations or circumstances you're facing that require you to trust God. Write down the circumstance or situation on one side of the card, and then discuss with others what action you'll take if you trust God with the situation rather than just

trusting yourself. Write that action on the other side of the card. Be prepared to help prompt discussion and provide direction for students. **This week, pay attention to how you act when faced with these circumstances or situations, and use the card to help remind yourself what trust looks like.**

Close in prayer, asking God to help us trust Him.

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