

The Cycle of Victorious Giving

Adult Study Guide

Lesson 1 – Trust to Live

Trust me!

How many times have you heard this phrase?

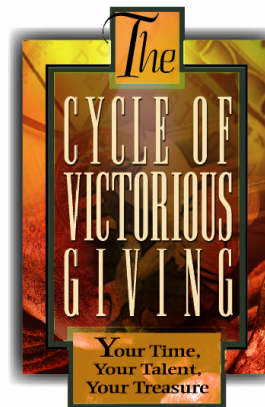
But who can you really trust? Most of us have been disappointed at one time or another by someone we thought we could trust—perhaps even loved ones or Christian friends.

But it's good to know there is someone we can trust. Proverbs 18:24 tells us, "A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother." Of course, that someone is the Lord.

God is faithful to us in so many ways. He provides all we have—from our food and water to our health and jobs—it's all His. But He gives it to us to manage on His behalf. There's a method to this system. During the next few weeks, we'll seek to learn better what God expects of us as we seek to live our lives as faithful biblical stewards.

Chapter 1 - Trust to Live

1. Describe the most recent example of trust you have witnessed in your life.
2. Why is trust in God considered to be the entrance to the cycle of victorious giving?
3. Why is the premise that our *decisions* result in our *provisions* a faulty one?
4. Relate an example of a detail of a life committed to God that opened you or someone you know to the truth of trusting in God.
5. What truth about trusting in God was shared by Moses? (See Ex. 3:1-15; 14:10-31.) By David? (See 1 Sam. 17:22-50; Ps. 4.) By Joseph? (See Gen. 39:1-33.) By Peter? (See Matt. 14:22-36; Luke 24:1-12.) Think of other people in the Bible who trusted God (for example, Abraham, Ruth, Mary).
6. What connection is created between supply and service? (Matt. 6:33).
7. What does Scripture tell us about God's supply in our lives in each of the following references?
 - a. Prov. 11:18 - The wicked man earns deceptive wages, but he who sows righteousness reaps a sure reward.
 - b. Eccl. 3:1 - There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven.
 - c. Matt. 13:8 - Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.
8. Dr. Toler refers to the "cycle of giving" as established by God's Word. Describe this cycle in your own words and experiences.



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