

## “Finding Trust Around Skeptical Springfield” | Defining Trust

**GETTING STARTED:** Who is someone that you trust? How long have you known them? What factors go into whether or not you trust someone?

### EXPLORE THE TOPIC:

1. The word “trust” means to have strong confidence or reliance upon someone or something. Why does the topic of trust matter within the church? What is the opposite of trust (besides simply “distrust”)?

2. When have you noticed a lack of trust in Springfield? What about our setting, culture or history might help create that sort of environment?

3. Read the following Psalms. What themes do you notice regarding the use of the word “trust?”

- Psalm 20:7
- Psalm 44:6-7
- Psalm 49:5-6
- Psalm 49:13
- Psalm 52:7
- Psalm 62:10
- Psalm 118:8-9

4. What is the difference between our English words “belief” and “trust”? What does it mean that “Trust is deeper than belief. Trust is acting on the belief”?

5. Read Psalm 115:2-8. How do idols impact our ability to trust? Why might someone still be tempted to place their trust in some place other than God?

6. What are some earthly places where people place their trust

(think about relationships, power, resources, etc.)? Which of these are okay? Which of these might jeopardize our relationship with God?

7. Read Psalm 115:9-13. How did God help his people in troubled times? What blessings are listed in verses 12-13?

8. How can a person trust in God despite the challenges that seem so evident in our world? What advice would you give to someone that says they can’t place their trust in something they can’t see?

### APPLY THE TRUTH:

Psalm 115 contains powerful images of what it looks like to trust God. This psalm is 18 verses long. Take turns reading verses aloud until your group has read the entire psalm aloud. Consider doing this two or three times in a row so that each person has a chance to read a different verse each time.

### PRAY:

Trust is a very sensitive topic for many people. Pray for God to help use you to bring the restorative message of the gospel to those you know. Use your prayer time to thank God for his trustworthiness. Proclaim the words of Psalm 118:8-9 that “It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in humans. It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes.”

### NOTES:

---

---

---

---