WEEK 3: "Trust"

Sermon Notes:						

OPENING QUESTIONS

- 1 Are you generally more trusting or skeptical when meeting new people? Why?
- 2 How do you typically determine if someone is trustworthy?

Trust (Abraham)

Genesis 15:3-8

³ "You have given me no descendants of my own, so one of my servants will be my heir." 4 Then the Lord said to him, "No, your servant will not be your heir, for you will have a son of your own who will be your heir." ⁵ Then the Lord took Abram outside and said to him, "Look up into the sky and count the stars if you can. That's how many descendants you will have!" ⁶ And Abram believed the Lord, and the Lord counted him as righteous because of his faith. ⁷ Then the Lord told him, "I am the Lord who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land as your possession." ⁸ But Abram replied, "O Sovereign Lord, how can I be sure that I will actually possess it?"

0	God just made a pretty bold promise to Abraham. How did Abraham respond? How do you think you would have responded if you were Abraham?
2	God showed the stars in the sky to Abraham to illustrate that everything is created by and belongs to the Lord. Since everything belongs to the Lord, what does that say about the way we trust him with our possessions?

3 How does seeking God's Kingdom above all else influence our willingness and reasoning to be generous with our possessions and finances? Trust (Jesus) Luke 12:27-30 ²⁷ "Look at the lilies and how they grow. They don't work or make their clothing, yet Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are. ²⁸ And if God cares so wonderfully for flowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you. Why do you have so little faith? ²⁹ "And don't be concerned about what to eat and what to drink. Don't worry about such things. ³⁰ These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers all over the world, but your Father already knows your needs. 1 Jesus directly addresses putting our trust in Him. Why is Jesus worthy of your trust? 2 Do you have an example of a time where you trusted in Jesus to provide for you? If yes, what happened? If no, what hinders you from trusting Him?

Trust (Financial Giving)

Luke 12:31-34

³¹ "Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and he will give you everything you need. ³² "So don't be afraid, little flock. For it gives your Father great happiness to give you the Kingdom. ³³ "Sell your possessions and give to those in need. This will store up treasure for you in heaven! And the purses of heaven never get old or develop holes. Your treasure will be safe; no thief can steal it and no moth can destroy it. ³⁴ Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.

0	Like the lilies in the field, God's glory is being shown through our church. We are expecting God to continue to build His Kingdom in this area and He wants to use all of us to do that! VRL is trusting that God wants to do more as we step forward in the Unfinished journey. What examples at VRL have you seen or experienced that have led you to trust God more?
2	Jesus calls us to practical change in our life to demonstrate our trust in Him. How does being generous with our possessions and finances help to counteract the worldly worries and concerns we often have?

3	3 Imagine you fully trusted all of God's promises with no hesitation. How would this impact your decisions with faith, family, and finances?						
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NEXT STEPS | Take time this week to make an inventory of all the things God has blessed you with materially. Then take time to reflect on if/how you are using each of those things to build and seek the Kingdom of God. Luke 12 calls us to make practical change as a way to demonstrate our trust in Him. Consider the practical changes you can make to your resources and the ways you can use them to show your trust in God.

You're halfway through the UNFINISHED series! What do you feel like God has revealed to you?