

Trusting in God's Word

Throughout my life, I have had many different Bibles. My first Bible was a small white leather-bound King James Version with a gold cross embossed upon the cover. I loved to hear the thin onion skin paper crinkle as I turned its pages. Although I could not yet read very well, I knew that book had great importance in my life and the way in which I was to live it. I would watch my grandmother read her Bible with such devotion, marking in the margins what spoke to her on that given day. I remember imitating her, using my red colored pencil drawing lines and “writing” important things in my margins as well.

As I grew, in years as well as in faith, the Bible that I carried with me changed as well. As a teenager, I preferred “The Living Bible” as it was easy for me to understand. In college, I mainly used the New International Version. When I was a seminary student, I discovered, and still use today, the New Revised Standard Version. But no matter which translation we use, our lives cannot help but be enriched by God's Word. For when we read God's Word, study it, and apply it to how we live our lives, God's love for us and the world around us can't help but shine through to others.

One of my favorite hymns, “'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus,” speaks so beautifully to how our lives can be enriched by God's Word.

“'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, Just to take Him at His Word;

Just to rest upon His promise; Just to know, “Thus saith the Lord.”

The word, “Trust” reaches out and grabs me each time I sing that hymn. It is a beautiful word, quiet, simple, representing freedom, rest, and letting go. No matter what we may face in our lifetime, God's word is constant and true. And we may take comfort in its shelter, find strength when we are weak, and guidance to live our lives as faithful servants. No matter what life may throw our way, the Word of God is true and constant. When we truly trust and rest in God's word our hearts and lives are indeed blessed and enriched.

Reflection:

- ♥ How has your Bible study/devotion time changed as your life has changed?
- ♥ When you trust in something or someone, you let go of all your fears and inhibitions about that thing or person. Discuss a time when it has been difficult to fully trust God's Word? What helped you to develop that trust?



Closing Prayer:

Dear God, You are our Creator and Sustainer. In You we place our faith and trust. Help us to hear Your Word and to trust in its power and wisdom for our lives. Be with us as we strive to be Your servants in this world. Direct our actions so that others may see You through all that we do as we strive to be women of the Word. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Michelle Rackley is a member of the Bartow CP Church in Rydal, Georgia where her husband, Mark is the pastor. Michelle is a busy mother of three; Sarah Catherine (age 5), Paul William (age 3), and Anna Rene (four months). With three small children, Michelle is really enjoying “mothering” right now!