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# Trust Me

By Shari Miller

In life, we encounter those who encourage us to trust.

"Trust me, this will be the best vacuum cleaner you have ever owned," said the salesman — words you remember as the vacuum burns out in three short months. Mom or dad might promise to be at a special recital or event. "Trust me, I'll be there on time," they say, only to show up 30 minutes late. Or, "Trust me, I will not share this confidence with anyone," says a friend. Weeks later, you find your reputation damaged because that confidence was shared. Perhaps, sadly, a spouse has promised, "Trust me, I will be faithful to you forever" — only to stray and dabble in infidelity.

The "trust me" phrase often is regarded as frivolous by our cynical world. Very little in life is worth our trust and faith. The object of trust can be faulty, unstable, or unfaithful — not worthy of trust.

The Lord God reminds us in Isaiah 43:1: *But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine."*

Think of it! Our heavenly Father and Creator stoops down and uniquely makes us. He gives us gifts and

talents, family and friends, food and drink, house and home. Our Lord and Savior Jesus willingly came down in the form of a human to live a perfect life, suffer, die, and rise again to redeem His own from the bondage and fear of sin, death, and the devil. Our God and Comforter — the Holy Spirit — makes us His own and pronounces, "you are mine" through the waters of Baptism and His Word. He gives us faith in Jesus and enables us to live lives of service to our God. Our God has intentionally accomplished all this — just as He planned and promised.

Enlightened by the Spirit, we hear from the Savior in the Gospel of John: "I am the bread of life" (6:38), "I am the light of the world" (8:12), and "I am the good shepherd" (10:14). Jesus says to us, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (14:6). He victoriously declares, "I am the resurrection and life" (11:25)! He promises nurture and gives us opportunities for service: "I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing" (15:5).

Yes, we may have friends and family that have proven trustworthy. Thank God that He has given us those very special people in our lives. However, our God *always* keeps His promises. He *always* loves us in Jesus and gives us faith by the power of His Spirit. His is the voice that can say to us with unwavering certainty, "Trust. Me." Q