



I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus

By Shari Miller

The trust game is one where all participants are blindfolded, except the leader. The leader then guides the blindfolded who have to trust that their leader will not lead them into harm. Variations of the game have evolved over the years, but in all the trust games, someone blindfolded and with their eyes closed must rely on someone who can see to safely pilot them. Discuss with a partner or your small group what feelings the “blindfolded” participant in this exercise might have to overcome. What could cause mistrust for the blindfolded participants?

Trust is not a game to our loving Lord. As God’s redeemed and dearly loved children through Christ, He leads and guides us throughout life. In Proverbs 3:5–6, we read: *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.* We can trust that our Triune God will navigate us through the path of life. Let’s look at trust in the Lord as described in God’s Word and also through phrases of our theme hymn: “I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus” (LSB #729 Public Domain).

Opening Prayer: Dear Guiding and Leading Lord, we praise You for Your goodness and giving us all that we need. However, our sin makes us Your enemies and separates us from You. Thank You for sending our Savior Jesus to serve us by living a perfect life, suffering, and dying for the sins of the world. We are clothed with His robes of righteousness. For His sake and trusting in His saving work, forgive our sins and lead us on the right path. Thank You for giving us Your Spirit in Word and Sacrament so that when we step off the path or stray from You, He keeps us in the faith, trusting in You for salvation and a new and glorious life in heaven! In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Trusting Only Thee

We are commanded, *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding* (Proverbs 3:5). That trust is Spirit-infused in us when He gives us faith in the waters of Baptism. We trust our God because He has done great things for us. Let’s explore what God has done for us. Read **Exodus 20:3–5b** and **Habakkuk 2:18**. What other gods, carved images, and idols do we sinners put before our Lord? Make a list of those below.

Read **Romans 3:23–25** and **1 Timothy 1:12–15**. Why can we trust Jesus and Him alone? _____

Read **Jeremiah 17:5–8**. In this Word-picture, identify at least five differences of trusting in man compared to trusting in the Lord? _____

Faith Talk: The words of our theme hymn use the following phrases to describe the salvation we receive in Christ: “full salvation,” “Thy grace and tender mercy,” “cleansing in the crimson flood,” and “make me holy by Thy blood.” Share with a partner or the small group which description you like best and why? Share in one phrase how *you* would describe Christ’s salvation.

If time permits: Look up the following Bible passages from the Book of Psalms and specifically identify what God did in the Psalmist’s life to bolster trust in Him, and what He does in your life to strengthen your trust in Him: **Psalms 9:10, 13:5, 20:7, 25:2, 28:7, and 31:14–16**. _____

Never Let Me Fall

Step by step in our lives, the Holy Spirit gives us faith and keeps us in that faith. How does the Spirit engender and keep us believing and trusting in our Lord Jesus? See **John 14:16–17; 1 Corinthians 11:23–26; Galatians 3:27; and Hebrews 4:12**. _____

According to **Acts 1:8**, what does the Lord want us to do in the world? _____

Faith Talk: One of the verses of our theme hymn uses these phrases: “trusting Thee for power” and “words which Thou Thyself shalt give me must prevail.” Share with a partner or the small group how the Holy Spirit works in your worship life, but also how He works in your daily life. Phrases from the theme hymn declare: “Never let me fall. I am trusting Thee to guide me; Thou alone shalt lead.” Proverbs 3:6 reads: *In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths*. Read the beautiful descriptions of the Good Shepherd in **Psalms 23 and John 10:11, 14–15**. List as many trust-strengthening characteristics of Jesus, our guiding Shepherd, as your group can find. _____

Approximately 700 years before Christ was born, the prophet Isaiah spoke the words of an Old Testament canticle in **Isaiah 12**. Read these words (also found sung in *LSB* #261–262 and #927). Note the use of the word “trust” in the canticle’s refrain.

Note **Isaiah 12:1**. How does our God comfort us (see **2 Corinthians 1:3–5**)? _____

Note **Isaiah 12:2–3**. How does He bring us *strength and joy* (see also **Nehemiah 8:10b**)? _____

According to **Isaiah 12**, what is our response to our saving God? _____

The last phrase of our theme hymn states emphatically: “I am trusting Thee forever and for all.” What do you think is meant by the phrase “for all”? Read **Isaiah 26:3–4**. How would you describe “perfect peace”? _____

Faith Talk: In **John 14:1–6**, Jesus promises His followers something out of this world! What does that mean for you right now?

Faith Talk: Read **Revelation 21:5**. How do those words inspire you as you step out in faith into an often-hostile world? Share with a partner or the small group.

Faith Walk:

- 1. Thank, praise, and sing for joy to Jesus for His grace and mercy in your life.
- 2. Pray that the Holy Spirit guides you and gives you the power and boldness to speak the Good News of salvation in Jesus alone to those you meet in your daily life.
- 3. Share the joy of Jesus with one special person you know.
- 4. Do research on the hymn, “I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus,” and its author, Frances R. Havergal.
- 5. Ask the Spirit to keep you faithful and trusting in Jesus as your Savior until the end.

Closing Prayer: Speak or sing the words of “I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus” (*LSB* #729; *LW* #408; *TLH* #428).

Shari Miller, wife of Rev. Larry, is a freelance author and musician living in Helena, Montana, and is the LWML Montana District President. She has written numerous articles and studies for the LWML.