

The In-Between

Part Three - Trust vs Suspicion

- **Many times there will be a gap between what we expect people to do and what they actually do. We either fill that gap with trust or suspicion.**

1 Corinthians 13:7

Love always trusts...

Luke 6:31

Treat others just as you want to be treated.

- **Our choice determines the integrity of our relationship.**

Proverbs 31:11

Her husband has full confidence in her; as a result, he lacks nothing of value.

- **Distrust comes down to who we are or what we see.**

1. Who we are.

Romans 12:2

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think.

2. What we see.

Trust's Commitment in the In-Between

1. I choose to always fill the gap with trust.

2 Peter 3:11

Since all these things will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people should you be?

2. When I hear someone filling a gap with suspicion, I will defend you.

Proverbs 17:17

A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a difficult time.

3. If what I see causes me to be suspicious, I will come to you.

Matthew 18:15

"If your brother sins against you, go to him and show him his fault. But do it privately, just between yourselves. If he listens to you, you have won your brother back."

- **We must commit to being trustworthy.**

Proverbs 25:19

A friend you can't trust in times of trouble is like having a toothache or a sore foot.

2 Corinthians 7:16

It makes me really glad to know I can depend on you.

Three Commitments of a Trustworthy Person

1. When I don't do what I committed to do, I will tell you.

Colossians 3:9

And stop lying to each other. You have given up your old way of life with its habits.

2. I commit to not over promise and under deliver; but if that's where it is heading, I will tell you before rather than after.

Matthew 21:28-31

I will tell you a story about a man who had two sons. Then you can tell me what you think. The father went to the older son and said, "Go work in the vineyard today!" 29 His son told him he would not do it, but later he changed his mind and went. 30 The man then told his younger son to go work in the vineyard. The boy said he would, but he didn't go. 31 Which one of the sons obeyed his father?

3. If you confront me about the gaps I created, I will tell you the truth.

Ephesians 4:25

We are part of the same body. Stop lying and start telling each other the truth.

• **Harboring suspicion and mistrust will eventually poison relationships.**

Ephesians 5:8-14

...once you were full of darkness, but now you have light from the Lord. So live as people of light! 9 For this light within you produces only what is good and right and true. 10 Carefully determine what pleases the Lord. 11 Take no part in the worthless deeds of evil and darkness; instead, expose them. 12 It is shameful even to talk about the things that ungodly people do in secret. 13 But their evil intentions will be exposed when the light shines on them, 14 for the light makes everything visible.

• **In the in-between, the consequences of confrontation are far less severe than the consequences of concealment.**

Galatians 2:11

But when Peter came to Antioch, I had to oppose him to his face, for what he did was very wrong.

Proverbs 28:13

People who conceal their sins will not prosper, but if they confess and turn from them, they will receive mercy.