Trust Fund
Pt. 1 - Building Trust

Opening - Tightrope walker with the wheel barrow - "Come get in!"

Note - Trust fund (defined) - An estate planning tool that establishes an account that will benefit someone at a future time.

· Trust is a form of currency. In relationships, it may be our greatest asset.

Note - The more trust you have, the wealthier you are. The less trust you have, the more impoverished you become. When trust is gone, the relationship is bankrupt.

Zechariah 8:16, These are the things you must do: Speak the truth, each of you, to one another. Practice true and righteous judgment in your courts.

Example - Refinancing the church mortgage based on credit - credibility determined by assets.
Note - We call someone who can be trusted "trustworthy." The term worthy has the idea of "worth" at its root. A relationship without trust isn't worth much.

· To build wealth relationally, we must build trust.

Proverbs 11:3, If you are good, you are guided by honesty. People who can't be trusted are destroyed by their own dishonesty.

How to Build Trust

1.   Follow through on your promises.

Ecclesiastes 5:5, It is better to say nothing than to make a promise and not keep it.

Note -   Under promise and over deliver.

2.   Communicate well.

Note -   Strive to hear and ensure you have been heard. James 1:19, Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry.

Example -   Mirroring

3.   Take your time.

Psalm 37:23, The LORD directs the steps of the godly. He delights in every detail of their lives.

Note -   Steps not leaps.

Example -   Make trust your default. Make someone earn   distrust.

Luke 16:10, "If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones. But if you are dishonest in little things, you won't be honest with greater responsibilities."

4.   Think through your decisions.

Note -   Haste makes waste.

Example -   Measure twice, cut once.
Luke 14:28-30, Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. What is the first thing you will do? Won't you sit down and figure out how much it will cost and if you have enough money to pay for it? 29 Otherwise, you will start building the tower, but not be able to finish. Then everyone who sees what is happening will laugh at you. 30 They will say, "You started building, but could not

finish the job."

5.   Don't take people for granted.

1 Thessalonians 5:11, So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.

Note -   Show appreciation regularly.

6.   Be a team player.

Philippians 2:4, Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.

Note -   No one trusts a selfish person.

Example -   The cross (Horizontal and vertical)

7.   Be honest.

Ephesians 4:25, We are part of the same body. Stop lying and start telling each other the truth.

Note -   If trust is a form of currency, dishonesty will make the market crash quicker than any other factor!

8.   Lend a helping hand.

Hebrews 13:16, And do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for God is pleased with such sacrifices.

Note -   In the parable of the talents (Matthew 25), it's he servant who was faithful with what he had that was given more.

9.   Stay humble.

Matthew 23:12, If you put yourself above others, you will be put down. But if you humble yourself, you will be honored.

Note -   We are often quick to take the credit and place the   blame.

Example -   Using terms us, we, our verses me, I and mine.

Note -   Admit your mistakes. God can't cover what you won't uncover.

10.   Do the right thing.

James 4:17, If you don't do what you know is right, you have sinned.

Note -   Righteousness can be defined right-choice-ness.   People who can be trusted don't always do the   easy thing, the popular thing or the thing that   benefits them - they do the RIGHT thing!

·   Building trust begins with trusting God.

Proverbs 3:5-6, Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

Example - Tara asking David if he was a tither.