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# The Importance Of & Lessons From Pushing & Pressing Lesson 4: Pushing & Pressing Through Mistrust



**Tuesday, October 11, 2022**

**Online Bible Study**

**6:30 pm**

Zoom Meeting ID 973 678 1217, Passcode 6781293

**I. THIS IS A VERY HARD BIBLE STUDY LESSON FOR ME TO TEACH**

- A. Why?
- B. Howsoever...

**II. WHAT WE MEAN BY PUSHING & PRESSING THROUGH MISTRUST**

- A. Our trust in something, someone, or an institution has been compromised or impacted in some way.
- B. The impact causes us to be hurt, disappointed, let down, discouraged, saddened
- C. These feelings affect the interaction and relationship we have with the person or the institution. We consider 2 basic options:



- D. Bottom line question: Is it possible to push and press through distrust?

*YES!*

- E. Don't forget to look at the other side of the equation. It's not just about us losing trust in others, but what about when we are the ones who cause the disconnect?

# Tonight's Focus Texts

Matthew 18:21-35

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?" <sup>22</sup> Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. <sup>23</sup> "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup> As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold<sup>[h]</sup> was brought to him. <sup>25</sup> Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt. <sup>26</sup> "At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' <sup>27</sup> The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go. <sup>28</sup> "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins.<sup>[i]</sup> He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded. <sup>29</sup> "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.' <sup>30</sup> "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. <sup>31</sup> When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened. <sup>32</sup> "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. <sup>33</sup> Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' <sup>34</sup> In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. <sup>35</sup> "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Proverbs 3:5-6

<sup>5</sup> Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;  
<sup>6</sup> in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.<sup>[a]</sup>

## II. TEXTUAL ANALYSIS

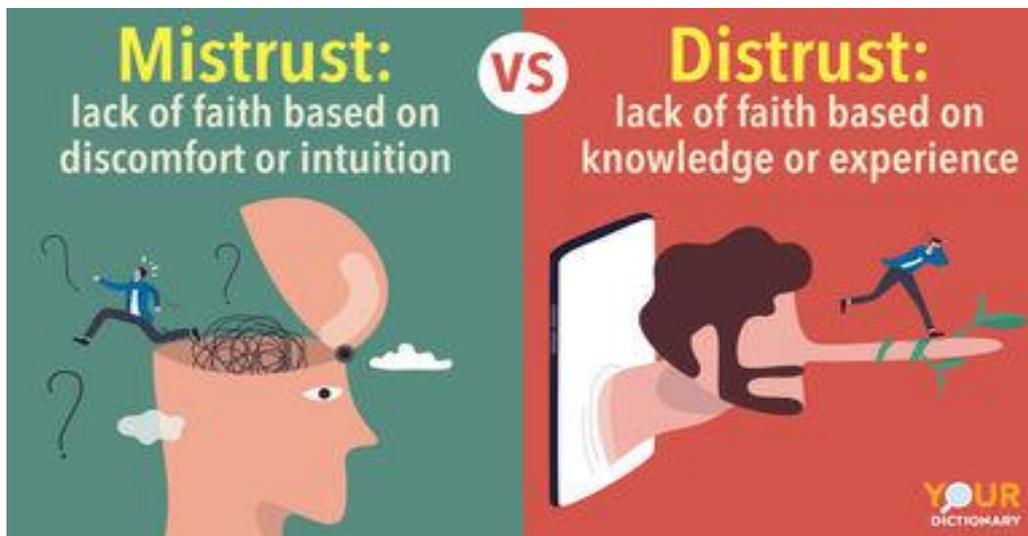
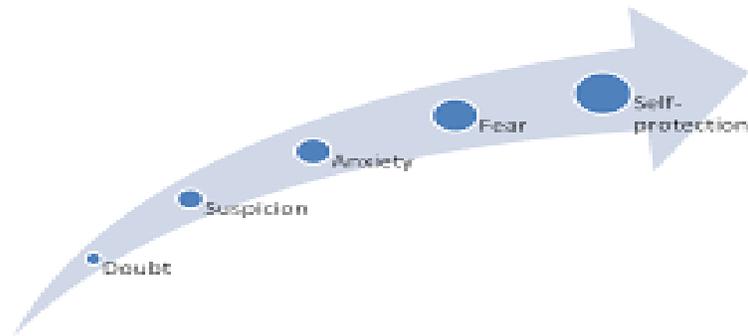
A. Presupposition: **ALL** humans are sinful (Romans 3:23).

1. We must learn to set realistic expectations of human beings. We should

not set up other people to be perfect Gods!

- B. Jesus begins the story with the endpoint: **forgiveness**.
1. “How many times shall we forgive?” Be aware of, but don’t get caught up in keeping a record of wrongs.
  2. Continuing actions/errors whittles away trust and can lead to distrust.

### Stages of Distrust



- C. In this story, there was trust present. No one would lend a large sum of money if there was no trust present.
- D. When did the trust become mistrust? When the money was not paid back. We bear the responsibility to make things right (vss. 24-25).
- E. The **request** for mercy and patience should be an acknowledgment by the borrower that the situation needs to be addressed immediately. The **granting** of pity, mercy, and debt cancellation by the lender is not only an act of grace but an opportunity for both parties to move forward with a clean slate.
1. Does the extension of grace mean that we forget what happened? Effectively, **YES!** Practically, this is not how most of us operate.

<p><b>trust</b> verb</p>	<p><b>distrust</b> verb</p>	<p><b>entrust</b> verb</p>
<p>1) to be confident that someone is honest, fair, and reliable.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 'I trust you completely,' he said.</li> </ul> <p><b>trust somebody/something to do something</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● You can't trust the trains to run on time.</li> <li>● Can we trust you to give her the message?</li> </ul> <p><b>be trusted to do something</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Can they be trusted to look after the house?</li> <li>● She can't be trusted to keep a secret.</li> </ul> <p>2) trust somebody with something to let sb have control over sth, believing that they will be careful with it</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● I wouldn't trust him with the keys.</li> <li>● I can always trust him with a secret.</li> </ul>	<p>to feel that you cannot trust or believe somebody/something</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Many politicians are deeply distrusted by the electorate.</li> <li>● She had every reason to distrust him.</li> <li>● She distrusted his motives for wanting to see her again.</li> </ul> <p><b>mistrust</b> verb</p> <p>to have doubts about the honesty or abilities of someone:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● I've always mistrusted politicians.</li> <li>● Her insecurity made her mistrust everyone.</li> </ul> <p><b>distrust vs mistrust</b></p> <p>There is very little difference between them, but <b>distrust is more common</b> and perhaps slightly stronger.</p> <p>As a general rule we can say that we distrust someone if we are sure that sb is acting dishonestly or cannot be relied on, and mistrust someone if we are expressing doubts and suspicions.</p>	<p>to make someone responsible for doing something important, or for taking care of someone.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All employees entrusted with the care of children are checked by the police.</li> </ul> <p><b>entrust something/somebody to somebody</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● He didn't look like the sort of man you should entrust your luggage to.</li> <li>● We cannot entrust the country's telecommunications to unqualified people.</li> <li>● She entrusted her son's education to a private tutor.</li> </ul> <p><b>be entrusted with something/somebody</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● I was entrusted with the task of looking after the money.</li> <li>● Two senior officials have been entrusted with organizing the auction.</li> </ul>

- F. The borrower got amnesia when it was his turn to extend forgiveness and grace to someone who borrowed from him.
  - 1. The unwillingness to extend grace and forgiveness is a punishable offense.
- G. Grace, mercy, and forgiveness must be more than words and deeds. They are matters of the heart.

### III. HOW DO WE TRUST (AGAIN) AFTER WE'VE BEEN HURT OR DISAPPOINTED?

1. We must remember to always trust God first.
2. We must stay in God's Word.
3. We must be people of regular and consistent prayer.
4. We must move to a point of forgiveness remembering that **WE HAVE BEEN FORGIVEN**.
  - a. What if it keeps happening?
5. We must decide not to become bitter.
6. We must allow restoration and rebuilding of trust over time.
7. Strive to be trustworthy ourselves.

### IV. NEXT WEEK: PUSHING & PRESSING THROUGH DEATH, SORROW, LOSS