

### Central Idea

What do you think is the central theme of chapter 14?

*When we face adversity, we can trust God. In fact, we must trust God. In addition, we should respond to adversity with thanksgiving, worship, humility, forgiveness, prayer, and a heart seeking only God's glory.*

### Developing Trust

1. a. **Read Luke 17:11-19.** What two human responses to a blessing are illustrated in this event?

b. According to **Acts 17:24-25** and **1 Corinthians 4:7**, why should we be thankful?

KJV Acts 17:24 God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; 25 Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;

KJV 1 Corinthians 4:7 For who maketh thee to differ *from another*? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive *it*, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received *it*?

c. Do you have a thankful attitude toward God most of the time, not often enough, or rarely? Explain.

d. Write a prayer asking God to help you have a more grateful spirit.

2. a. What does Romans 8:28 say about God working in our lives?

KJV Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose.

b. How does **Romans 8:28** help us fulfill **1 Thessalonians 5:18**?

KJV 1 Thessalonians 5:18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

3. a. What was Jacob's reaction to the loss of his children and property?

**Read Job 1:13-21.**

b. What is worship? (A Bible dictionary might be helpful.)

c. What specifically helps you to enter into a spirit of worship?

4. a. Read **2 Corinthians 12:7**. Why was Paul given a "thorn in the flesh"?

KJV 2 Corinthians 12:7 And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure.

b. Has God ever used an adversity in your life to counteract your pride? If so, describe the situation.

c. Why does God cherish humility in us (James 4:6)?

KJV James 4:6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

d. What are the major sources of pride in your life?

e. How can you change the areas where you are proud into areas of humility?

5. a. How does humility help us deal with mistreatment from other people?

b. Do you have a hard time forgiving others? Explain.

6. a. What sort of attitude is pleasing to God when we pray for deliverance from some adversity?

b. Is there ever a point at which we need to stop praying for deliverance? If so, how do we know when we have reached that point? If not, why not?

7. Of the six responses discussed in “Examining Trust”—thanksgiving, worship, humility, forgiveness, prayer, and a heart seeking only God’s glory—which one is the most difficult for you? Why is this so?

8. Look at **Isaiah 42:8**. How can your actions better show that glorifying God is your top priority?

KJV Isaiah 42:8 I *am* the LORD: that *is* my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images.

9. What are the most important ideas you have gained from this study?

### **Trust in Action**

1. Write a prayer to God, expressing the ways you hope to trust Him more fully.

2. If there is someone you need to forgive, or ask forgiveness from, make a point of doing it this week.

3. Memorize 1 Thessalonians 5:18

4. Ask a friend to join you for a brief time of worship. You may want to include Scripture readings, prayer, singing, and silence. Discuss what helps you break past the barriers in your heart to enter a true time of worship.

5. Watch your attitude for one week. How often are you in a negative, complaining state of mind, and how often do you have an attitude of thanksgiving? Keep a record in your journal. Share your results with a friend.