

_____ Expectations!

Overview

I was a little nervous getting ready for this. And I didn't tell her that Siegfried Tepper would be here. Actually, I didn't know he would be here. He wants to play and you sing one of these days. That would be nice. Pastor David, we are honored to have a pastor who other churches want. He is called a lot of times, but this one he felt he needed to go to it, with the conference on the Holy Spirit. He was called up there to stir up the church. And we know he will do that. He's working on us every Sunday. Stir us up. And that's what I want to do this morning. I'm going to take the risk of maybe offending you, some of us maybe, with what I share this morning, but I'm giving it to you with a pure heart.

I asked Lucas to do something different. I asked him to put a blank and then expectations following it, because you can have reasonable expectations and then you can have unreasonable expectations. And it doesn't mean that unreasonable expectations are not what God wants for us. Sometimes He stretches us a little bit in our expectations really as a form of faith. Believe, amen.

Before we get into that, I feel obligated to share something with you. So what's happening out there in a very strange world? If I were you, I would get into the book of Revelation like never before and also Matthew 24 like never before. Daniel and Ezekiel... There's so much happening you could listen to the news and read the revelation of Jesus and see so many. But this one is from a recent magazine with a worldwide circulation. And here's what the editor says. I'm not going to give any names. "A lot of what I read now comes from people around the world who are trying to discern these times. I hear recognition with almost one voice that something has happened. It's like a great undercurrent moving below the surface of world events, bringing with it vast changes in all parts of life. I think you would hopefully say amen to that or you're not listening and reading. It brings with it uncertainty, unease and apprehension as to what will happen next."

In the end of that article he said this, "while we might hope for a return of the normal, a realistic assessment says we will not likely return to the world of just

three years ago. This can be very unsettling. Before Christ's return, there will be a storm of such proportions that it will rock the foundations of civilization and threaten the human race with extinction. Read Revelation.”

That's it. Let me throw my two cents in here. Somebody mentioned about one line. I think I'm becoming famous for the one liner. How is this one? Common sense is now an endangered species. Stupidity has taken over the world and unfortunately there's no unknown cure. I actually heard one of the anchors, I'm not sure what station it was, but they were talking about the woke and all the stuff that's going on in schools and even the army. Did I tell you that they're recruiting for the army with drag queens entertaining them to get them into the army? I asked you what kind of army is that going to be? I don't know. This is why I'm speaking and what I'm speaking this morning.

The church is being challenged to stand in a way that has not been challenged before. The church, and I hope you understand that, Pastor Dave, we are challenging this congregation. Start preparing your family for these hard times. Teach all those you know and love that happiness is not about getting all you want, but it is about enjoying with gratitude all that you have. I like that. I've said amen to that. I want to say it again and hopefully I'll know that you're following me.

Sometimes with the lights we can't see your lips saying amen, so we have to hear it with our ears. Start preparing your family for those hard times. Teach all those you know and love that happiness is not about getting all you want, but it is about enjoying with gratitude all that you have. (AMEN) Thank you. That sounds so much better. About eight years ago, during the night, we drove across Canada. We actually started in the northern states. We went to Mount Rushmore and visited Chief Crazy Horse and their people. Then we went up into Alberta and visited with family and friends all through Alberta, BC to Vancouver and then down the West Coast. I was surprised at how many people we knew down the West Coast. Some families went down to Palm Springs where Doreen's sister lives.

As we spoke with all of them, some probably our age, some younger, some a little older, but this is what I heard again and again. It's not supposed to turn out like this. I want you to think, would you have been one of those people who would have said it's not supposed to turn out like this? And the truth is this, we had

expectations because we had promises. Expectations and promises. I was looking through my files. I've kept all my notes. I found something from 40 years ago. You can believe that. 40 years ago from a new wine magazine. I loved the new wine magazine back in the 70s.

It was about expectations and it mentioned four unreasonable expectations. I'm going to share them with you and then give some of my idea of what unreasonable expectations are:

I should always perform perfectly.
Can you read that from back there?

I should never fail.
You say there are scriptures there? Yeah. How about this one? Do all things through Christ who strengthens me? How about this one? Who always causes me to triumph in Christ Jesus? How about this one? I love this one.

Everyone should love me and should act like it all the time. I was hoping you would laugh at that one because that is unreasonable. How about this one?

I should be treated fairly by everyone, especially Christians and family.

Okay, I'll go to my own.

I should never have to experience pain or sickness.
It says we shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover.
I've had people in this church, not even pastor, people in this church, but I'm so thankful for. I've been suffering with pain. I hate to say there's a pain in the neck because people just say, "yes, you have been". But who prayed for me? I've had oil anointed for this pain and I'm preaching here this morning in pain.

But I believe in healing. I see the promises. Rob has prayed for me for just whatever you think that's been wrong with me for the last 20 years, Rob. Thank you. Some worked, some haven't worked ...yet. How about this one?

If I am in God's will, it should not be difficult.
Tell Mother Teresa that.

If I raise my children, I think this might touch all of us, to believe in God, you know, into school, children, boys and girls, clubs and Bible studies and at home encouragement from parents, then I should expect them to serve God in their adult years. Some of you say, Lord, that's my expectation.

Is it reasonable? Here's Jesus in John 14. You know, I love John 14, 15, 16 and 17 because in 17 you have the true Lord's prayer where He prays for His disciples and He prays for me and you. But in John 14, He says this, verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth on me, the works that I do, shall he do also. In greater works than he shall he do because I go unto my Father and whatsoever you shall ask, in my name, that will I do that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

And just in case the disciples weren't listening, he said, if you know and you shall ask anything in my name, I will do it. Have you ever asked for something really serious that you really would love to have an answer for and it did not happen? A lot of those people that we mentioned on that trip, I've been watching for it since we got back eight years ago, some have become disillusioned, some have become discouraged, some have become bitter, angry. They may not say they're angry at God, but really they are angry at God.

We have a lady on the fifth floor of where we live. Many of you know, remember Eunice Frick, she lives right next door to this lady and she and her. Yes, she has a wonderful husband, but she has taken it on to swear at Eunice every time she sees her because she remembers that she is a Christian and she's, Eunice told Doreen and me this and I said, no, there can't be. I said, Eunice, nobody will swear like that. Well, it so happened that not that long ago, a few months ago now, we were visiting Eunice and I had left the door open and this lady came along to her apartment, saw the door open and came in and said, oh, right away she knew who we were because Eunice talks about us and she said, you and your God and she started blaspheming God. I mean the language that I never thought that women knew, I knew men could swear like that, but I didn't think women swore like that. And she went on and on.

Finally I said, stop. I said, what happens if you die and find out there is a God? She stepped back and looked at me and said, then I want a word with him. I want to know why he allowed seven members of my family to starve to death in the Ukraine. This is when she was a child and that is a horror. A horror. I've never seen it that bad. And I was angry at her for a number of weeks and then I thought, you know, she's hurting. She's hurting because she had expectations that her

family would be around for a long time and they were gone. They were going to starve to death.

Do you know that in Armenia today Christians are laying down their lives like never before today, in Armenia. I just heard it on the news yesterday. And more people are dying for their faith in Jesus Christ than ever in history right now. That's why we have to wake up the church. That's why we have to say something about it. This next one, Lukas, is this, if I can find a promise in the Bible and it becomes a Rhema, you know what I mean by a Rhema word? You know something and you know it and you know it. You know it. Here's the question. Should it not work out for me? This is the tough one. When I expect it.

Because then we're talking about the timing of God and I guarantee one thing that nobody really understands is the timing of God. Ask Abraham and Sarah about the timing of God. How would you put that one? Would that be a reasonable expectation because you know what is burned in your heart? You would say, I know that I know. And you're waiting. In Proverbs we see this. Hope deferred. The thing is one of the first verses I learned when I first became a Christian back in February 1961. Hope deferred makes the heart grow sad. And the translation says ... sick, I think it's The Message Bible that puts these words to it. I love the Message Bible. Unrelenting disappointment.

Have you ever felt that? Unrelenting disappointment does something to my expectations. I believed. I've spoken. It was Saturday, not yesterday, a week ago. We had a Bible study in the home of a friend who has to be brought home from the nursing home, to his home so that his wife, and a few of us could have a Bible study. I remember years back, we were meeting at Tim Hortons, on Merritt Road. He got off his motorbike, a cool guy, a writer, a filmmaker. You know him. He said his name. He said my fingers are numb. They're tingling me. I'm going to have to go and find out what it is. Next time I saw him there he said "it is MS. It is MS. But I'm having communion."

I'm sure he wouldn't mind me sharing this. I'm having communion every morning because I'm not accepting this. We would meet and we would quote scripture to each other for year after year after year. One day I noticed that he didn't bring his motorbike. He brought a car and when he got out he had a cap. If anyone stayed on the word and I told his wife, this man, I said if anybody deserves to be healed it's your husband because he's been steadfast. But a week ago it's hard. I don't see Cliff and Sue here this morning.

And you know Sue was one of the top female speakers in Canada. A wonderful gorgeous lady who had the word in her. She's written several books. In fact in one of her books she mentions me. That's why I think she's special. But Sue has, and I know that she and Cliff stand on the word. I know they're expecting. Is it a reasonable expectation or is there times when we say well I guess it's not reasonable. Just unreasonable to believe things like that. Blending disappointment. There is something that I have had to accept and I don't know if I truly understand it. But is this next one here Lucas?

God has ordained that a certain mystery shrouds the full understanding of his sovereignty. Do we have that one?

God has, I want to put it up there, there it is thanks. God has ordained that a certain mystery shrouds the full understanding of his sovereignty. See regardless of our faith level of what we believe, what we stand on, God is still sovereign. We think and speak from a subjective perspective, we are subject to the five senses. God is not subject, he is objective. His understanding is beyond. He sees the past, the present and the future. And he has allowed you to have a shower? Of course you have a shower. When you have a shower. And the steam kind of covers the mirror. And it's there, your image is there but it's shrouded.

This mystery he has chosen not to reveal everything about his sovereignty. Some of it is shrouded. And every demand to know. This is funny because just last week our granddaughter who was in Bible school in Edmonton classes just started last week and she texted us and said, would you pray for me that I'll know what God wants me to do in the future? First year of Bible school. She wants to be a pastor, she knows that. But she just wants to know what's coming, well the Lord gave me some words from Abraham. And I said, I said to Doreen, I said send this to her. Hebrews 11, Father Abraham, the faithful, father of the faithful. And this is what it says in the King James. And Abraham left Ur of the Chaldees not knowing where he was going. But here's a 20 year old in Bible school, the first week and she wants to know it all. I sent that, and she wrote that right away and said, gee thanks I needed that.

There are things we have to put in his hands and let go of and say, I trust you Lord. I trust you. Look at what Job went through. Somewhere in that whole thing he said, even if he slays me, I will trust him. Have you come to that place yet? I don't know. I'm working on it. I'm working on it. February the 6th, 1961. That gives me a long time to figure God out. I'm still working on it. The Apostle Paul, I'm

going to read some of this. Ananias Acts chapter 9. I'm not going to read the whole thing. I'm going to challenge you to read Acts chapter 9. You know how he was knocked to the ground in the bright light. He was going to Damascus to put people in jail and maybe kill some of them. And this bright light saw, saw, why are you persecuting me? Who are you Lord? This time his eyes were blinded, that bright light blinded him. He said, I'm Jesus. Who are you persecuting?

Can you imagine that, going through that? He said, many times he said, I sincerely did what I was doing. Sincerely persecuted the church. Sincerely, So he went three days and three nights without eating or drinking. Not even water. And here's where it is. And he was there three days and three nights. Neither did I eat nor drink. And there was a certain disciple at Damascus named Ananias. And to him the Lord said, Ananias. He said, what Lord? He said, rise and go to a street that is called straight. Inquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul of Tarsus.

So behold, he prayed. I love that. You got to love the King James version. Behold, he prayed. What else was he going to do? He couldn't see. He was high. He had had the encounter. I always say this to the Lord. Lord, if you had encountered me the way you encountered Paul, I think I would be a much better preacher myself. God, do you want to go back and do it? No, no, no, it's fine. It's fine. But he said, Lord, I have heard about this man. He's a dangerous man. He came here to put people in jail. And here's what the Lord said. Go thy way. He is a chosen vessel. Don't miss that. He is a chosen vessel unto me to bear my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel and get this one. And I will show him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.

Why? I'm sure that Paul wished many times he didn't put that last thought in there. I will show him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake. Paul agreed with this years later. And he writes his second epistle to the Corinthians, which was a troubled church. And for some reason he felt he needed to give his credentials. I've got it here so I can read it clearly to you from the living Bible. Second Corinthians 11: 23 - 27. They say they serve Christ, but I have served him far more than he writes in brackets. Have I gone crazy? I'm boasting like this. I have worked hard or been put in jail more often than times without number and face death again and again and again. Five different times the Jews gave me their terrible 39 lashes. Jesus had it once.

Paul said he had it five times, 39. Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stolen, three times I was shipwrecked. Once I was in the open sea all night and the whole next day. I have traveled many weary miles and have been often in

great danger from flooded rivers, from robbers and from my own people, the Jews, as well as from the hands of the Gentiles. I have faced great dangers from mobs in the cities and from death in the deserts and the stormy seas and from men who claim to be brothers in Christ but are not. I have lived with weariness and pain and sleepless nights. Often I have been hungry and thirsty. I've gone without food. Often I have shivered with cold without enough clothing to keep me warm. Paul had a right to say, don't tell me how tough you've got it.

The question, I think a reasonable question would be did Paul have to go through all that in order to do what God wanted him to do? If you had to go through any discomfort, maybe pain, maybe your name slandered, maybe hurt by those that you poured so much into. Betrayed. I'm going to do this. Acts 16.

This answers the question, if I am in God's will. It shouldn't be difficult. Have you got that feeling? I've got that feeling. If I'm doing what I know God wants me to do, He'll be there. He'll help me. I don't know if you're sleeping on me or if you're just listening very intently. If you believe what I said, if I do God's will, if I'm in the center of God's will, it should be great. How do you feel, that way? Just me? Let me read it to you. Paul and Silas, second missionary journey. Dr. Luke picks it up here in this chapter, starts giving his account... "Now when they had gone, Paul and Silas, through Frigia and the region of Galatia and were forbidden", get this, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia. The Holy Spirit leading them. After they were come to Mizzia, they are saved to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit, the Holy Spirit, would not let them go there. They wanted to go there. He said, no. They wanted to go there. He said, no. And the vision appeared to Paul. There stood a man of Macedonian, prayed to him, saying, come over into Macedonia and help us. And Dr. Luke writes this. And after we had seen the vision, immediately we endeavored to go into Macedonia. Listen, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us to go and preach the gospel there in Philippi. There was stop from going here, stop from going here, called here and said, this is it. Dr. Luke said, we knew this was what God wanted us to do. But if you read the beginning of their ministry in Philippi, I'm going to go down to verse 22. And the multitude rose up together against them and the magistrates tore their clothes off of them, charging the jailer to keep them safely, who, having received such a charge, forced them into the inner prison and made their feet fast in the stocks. And it said, they laid many stripes upon them.

Were they in God's will? When the vision said, come to Philippi. Were they in God's will now? In the darkest dungeon, the chains on their feet? Now you know what

the next verse says, right? I'm going to surprise you what the next verse says. And at midnight, the church in Philippi was born. You see, that's not what it says. It says this, this sang and worshiped so loudly that all the prisoners heard. Yeah. And then the earthquake came. At midnight, I suppose they could have complained and it would have been a reasonable complaint, a reasonable expectation that God should be caring for them. Well, he sent it to them, a jailer who got under such a conviction. He said, what should I do to be saved? And I want to read this to you. He took them to the jail that same hour at night and washed their stripes. And with baptism, he and all his household, the first believers in Philippi.

And the church is there now. We have one of my favorite books in the Bible, the book of Philippians. The book of Philippians Paul said, I can do all things through Christ when I have a lot. I live with it when I don't have anything. I don't live with it. I can do all things through Christ. I hear somebody saying, well, this is not very encouraging. This is what caused Mother Teresa to say, Lord, I know you love me, but I wish you didn't love me that much for the things that I had to go through. He said to Timothy, the young man eventually would pass through the Ephesus, he said, therefore, Timothy, learned to endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. Learn to endure hardness. When Paul had got the confidence of a number of leaders in Antioch, he actually said this word to them.

It's Acts 14: 22 and he said to them that we must go through much tribulation to enter into the kingdom of God. Whoa, are you as excited as you look right now? Do I have to go through, is this part of the plan? So many of you prayed for this neck of mine. I'm preaching now it's hurting. Why? They don't believe we lay hands on the sick and they shall recover. I want you to know something. I got this early this morning. Somewhere in the world right now, right this moment while we're here. There are many, many people who are praying for other people and they're getting healed, gloriously healed right now all over the world. Should we be upset if it's not happening right now here?

Are our expectations reasonable or are there times when they may be unreasonable? I don't want to see any of you, any of my family. So nice to have Dean and Mel with us to get to the place where you just begin to doubt. And not just get mad at the word or mad at the promises, but when we are in danger of getting mad at God. That's dangerous. That's dangerous. I somehow was led to this verse. You know the seven churches in the book of Revelation 2 and 3. He writes about the seven churches. Five of them he gives commendation and

condemnation, positive and negative.

To one church he gives only condemnation because they just were not carrying out his vision for that church. To one church, Smyrna, he gives no condemnation, just commendation, just positive. And I would like to read that letter that he wrote, Jesus wrote, to this church in the book of Revelation and then to Angel of the church in Smyrna, right. These things said the first and last which were dead and are now alive. I know thy works and thy tribulation and poverty quote, but you are rich. And I know the blasphemy of them who say they are Jews but are not but are the synagogue of Satan. Fear none of those things which you shall suffer.

Behold the devil shall cast some of you into prison that you may be tried and you shall have tribulation for ten days. Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life. He that hath an ear let him hear what the spirit says unto the church. Be that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death shall not be hurt. Shall not be hurt. You were having coffee with a couple this week and I shouldn't have said this but I said it. Maybe I shouldn't be saying it to you but I'm going to say it because I'm saying it to me too. If it happens that you are brought before a crowd of people and a gun is put to your head and said deny Jesus and you can walk out of here ... life. If you do not deny him ... death ... would you deny Jesus? God, praise God. I hope that doesn't mean that so many of you have mocked you for saying that. I like American politics.

I followed Mike Huckabee when he was running for president and that would be three and a half years ago. But back then he said so when he saw what the Muslim community were doing in parts of the world and what was happening in ISIS and he made this statement. He said I never dreamed that as an American living in America, United States of America I might ever have to lay down my life for my faith in Jesus Christ. I'm beginning to live with that reality that I may be called on. That's the preparation of the church. That's the warning that I feel that churches have to tell their congregations.

We're probably on the verge of a revival, but we also can find that there will be pockets or places where we will give our life for Jesus Christ. I don't know if it will happen in my lifetime. I have kids here who are grandparents. It may happen in our grandchildren's time. And you know what you need to do? You know what I need to do? All in love with Jesus, more and more. That's really the only solution to love him with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, all your strength and love your neighbor as yourself.

King David said, it was good for me that I was afflicted, that I might learn thy statutes. Have you experienced something where you can actually say, looking back on it now, I can see it was good for me? I like Joyce Meyers. I followed her for years and I think she's a phenomenon. She should be in some funny house somewhere. But recently, about two months ago, I heard her say this. I don't want to offend anyone. I heard her say this. She said, "you know my testimony, I was raped by my father over 200 times. But looking back, knowing what God has given me and the responsibility to reach millions of people, I can say, I'm thankful it happened to me."

That's coming a long way. That's coming a long way. We've all heard about Paul's thorn in the flesh. In 2nd Corinthians there is another statement, here's what Paul said. I'm going to try to give it by my memory because I don't like it but I need this. Paul said to the Corinthians, three times, three times I went to the Lord about this. It was given unto me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to buffet me. And three times I went to God. He ignored him the first time. He ignored him the second time. We don't know how far apart these requests were. But he says, on the third time, Paul wished he could have said he took it away. On the third time, He said, Paul, my grace is sufficient for you. For my strength is perfected in your weakness.

Why? Why? I have to believe that this pain in my neck somehow is making you listen a little more. I don't know why. If that's the price I pay to have an anointing, more gladly, Paul said, more gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmity that the power of Christ would dwell upon me. What are we willing to do to walk with the anointing of God in our lives? Reasonable, unreasonable? You know what really helps in all of this? We have a God who can be touched with the feelings of our infirmity. He knows where we're at. He knows what we're going through. And he loves us. That's why I wanted to say, I love you, Lord. Regardless of all the content, regardless of the people who tell me that I'm crazy to believe in a personal God, I love you, Lord, for the excellency of the revelation.

You know what that means? He said, because of how great this revelation was that God was giving me about the church and about grace, because of this excellency. Lest I be exalted above measure in pride. Lest I think that maybe I am something in writing two-thirds of the New Testament, which he didn't know at that time, of course. Lest I be exalted, I was given a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to buffet me. When he understood God's purpose, maybe

that's something we need to ask more often. Father, you said when we lack wisdom, we can ask you for it, and you give it to us willingly. You know how I pray for any of you? I've been praying for my family, Dina, Ma, pray for you and Kayla, Mark, the little baby. Lord, give us all peace and wisdom, because we probably wouldn't ask for wisdom if we were not in some kind of peace, peace and wisdom.

Hallelujah. Okay, let's run through these things quickly. I'd like to pass the day of life to us to be out at a certain time. Some balancing truths:

Love God for who he is, not for his benefits.

That's good. That straightens out some of our thinking.

To not confuse the love of God with the promises of God.

He's still God, whether you like how he's doing it. Can I repeat that? He is still God, whether you like it or not.

Don't use God for your personal advantage.

Check your prayer list and see how many times you're asking for something personal. Remember to acknowledge God in all your ways, Proverbs, in all your ways acknowledge him and he will direct your paths. I remember, around the time when I first got saved, when people came, Christians started coming to our church with my mom, got saved just before we all did. And every time somebody would pray with my mom or visit her, they left. He said, we'll see you, Sister Cuke, the Lord willing. Remember that? Tomorrow I'm going to Toronto, the Lord willing, this afternoon I'm going to Buffalo Airport, the Lord willing.

Proverbs says, if you do that, he will direct your paths. Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Leave not unto your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him. He will direct your paths. So there, truth for today's, can we see that one? Look at that last one. Truth for today's living.

You cannot compensate by sacrifice, what you lose by disobedience.

That is such a profound truth. Maybe God wants you to go back to your place of disobedience and there, obey to get past the block. Obedience is the proof of love. I haven't done this for many years because I haven't come so for many years, but I used to, when I would talk to a couple and the husband would say to his wife, I love you. I would look at her quickly and say, tell him, prove it.

Okay, I just lost some of you. But the proof of love is obedience. Well, you can change a habit, but only God can change in nature. Disagreement produces powerlessness in the home and in the church. I close with this. This I hope will be an encouragement to you. His name is Dr. Timothy Jennings. I cut this out of some magazine. His testimony was this, on December 31st, the last day of the year, my wife left me. I came home from work and she was gone. Most of the furniture was gone.

The next day, January 1st, he got a telephone call from the hospital and his father had died. And here is what he said. "So I have been hurt. My heart has been broken. I have felt pain so strong that it felt like my insides were being ripped out, sadness so deep. I was sure I would never see the sunlight of happiness again. But I love the but's of the Bible. The wages of sin is death. But the gift of God is eternal life." But read, you should study the but's of the Bible. They're wonderful. But today, here's what the doctor said, "but today I can tell you that whatever your heartache, whatever your pain, whatever your discouragement, it can be healed. No matter how bad the pain, don't give up. No matter how dark the depression, don't give in. No matter how high the hell of shadows of despair, don't surrender."

And here's the challenge. If you put your life in Christ's hands, you can never be placed in a situation for which God has not made provision. Amen? Put your life in his hand. He's God. But trust him when you don't understand. Trust him. He can be trusted. Let's stand together. He can be trusted. Can you lead Doreen? I want her to just sing that. I'm just going to sing it once or twice. Reaffirm. If you heard something this morning that has challenged you to trust him and to say, Lord, I love you. I don't want to love you with my head. You get information up here. You get revelation down here. I want to trust you with my whole heart. I love you, Lord. Sing it from the bottom of your heart Before we sing it one more time, I want you to do something. If you want to, of course. Take some of your doubts, some of your questions, some of your unreasonable expectations. Even some of your anger this morning, just hold it before you and say, Lord, I give it to you. Would you do that? Lord, I give you these things that you spoke to me about this morning. I give it to you because I love you.

Sing it one more time The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. Do what Pastor Dave encourages us to do. Look at one another and say God bless you. Amen. You are dismissed. God bless you.