

Do You Trust Me?

By Brian T. Whitaker, Whitaker Writings

I told four-year-old Katie something she needed to do.

“Why?” came the response. In this case, it was not a challenge to my authority as her father. She simply wanted to understand.

But I realized that she could not possibly understand the situation. Her limited life experience and understanding of the world were not nearly as deep as mine, and she would not be able to comprehend my answer even if I could articulate it in the simplest words.

I asked, “Katie, do you trust me?”

“But...”

“Katie, do you trust me?”

“Yes, but I don’t understand....”

“Katie, do you realize that I know much more about this than you do? Do you trust that I want what’s absolutely best for you?”

“Yes, but....”

“So trust me on this. Please do what I asked you to do.”

She obeyed. Her question disappeared as her trust in me was reaffirmed.

The Lord quietly whispered to me, “Brian, that’s like some conversations you and I have.”

I don’t usually ask the Lord “Why?” because I have grown to understand that I cannot ever comprehend the answers even if He chooses to give them to me. My finite brain cannot comprehend things that are eternal, nor slightly understand how God’s infinitely perfect plan works out. We read in Isaiah 55:8-9: *“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways,” declares the Lord. “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts.”*

Still, I sometimes want to know why He may choose this or that course for my life. Over the last year especially, I have often been tempted to ask why He chose to call my first wife home at a time I felt that the kids and I most needed her here with us. Each time, I felt Him saying, “Brian, do you trust Me?” Yes, I do. My faith in Him has grown more in the past year than any other time in my life. I trust Him to meet all of my needs. I trust Him to provide for my kids most perfectly even though they don’t have their earthly mother. I believe He will make up the loss in their lives and use all of this somehow for His glory and their good. I don’t pretend to know how; I just move forward with deepening trust in Him.

It really comes down to trust. Do we trust that God has a perfect plan that He is bringing about in His infinite power and everlasting goodness? Do we believe that God is working for our best in all situations (Romans 8:28)? Perhaps we should spend less time asking Him “Why?” and more time obeying Him in true surrender and trust.

“Do you trust Me?”