

## Trusting God No Matter What

While serving as a missionary with the International Mission Board (of the Southern Baptist Convention), Lanette Thompson provided an insightful truth about trust. She was regularly approached by people who said that since West Africa was such a dangerous place to serve, she would really have to rely on God's protection.

She answered this way, "I can show you the grave of a 15-year-old missionary's child who died of hepatitis and the grave of a 4-year-old who died of malaria. If my trust were in God's protection, my trust would crumble under such circumstances. My trust is in God, in the belief that He is in control and that whatever happens will happen for His glory." ( from the October, 2000 issue of **Your Church On Mission with God** )

In the Bible, in first and second chapters of the book of Job, the devil accuses Job of only serving God because God has blessed him materially. God then gives the devil permission to strip Job of his riches. Job experiences all the stages of grief but does not lose his faith in God. He does not turn his back on God.

Do you worship God because you are doing well financially and are mostly healthy? If you lost one or both, would you turn your back on God? If we truly trust God's promises, His goodness and love, then we will trust Him no matter what.

How do you know you would keep trusting if you lost it all? You can demonstrate such faith now by sacrificing the things of this life in order to serve God. Using the blessings He has given us in order to bring people to Him shows that we are living for heaven and not for earth.

Faith in God is not something we only demonstrate when times are bad. We demonstrate it by the way we live each day, even when everything is good. Live that way this week. Live your faith in God.