

Embracing Trust in a Challenging World

Today, I want to talk about trust. In our current society, trust has become increasingly fragile. Recent news, such as the troubling events surrounding the KK Park, have highlighted how criminal organizations turn fraud and deception into business and profit, generating substantial income. There are hundred thousand of victims including stars. They were deceived and kidnapped illegally to Burma. They lost their freedom and were forced to embark on phone deception, online casinos and other illegal deeds.

Many of us experience the nuisance of scam calls daily. One day in mid-Feb, a guy pretending me called the school office intending to deploy a staff member to bank in money for him. Luckily, our smart staff drove off the liar. However, this kind of alarming trend erodes the trust that binds our communities. It is a concern we cannot overlook.

One of the detrimental effects of this growing mistrust is that it leads individuals to withdraw from social connections. When people become distrustful, they often isolate themselves, which can increase feelings of loneliness. Research by the well-being expert Professor Boell indicates that a lack of social connections is a key factor contributing to human failure and poor well-being.

Despite the difficulties sometimes posed, I encourage each of you to strive to build trust in your lives, for example, in the following ways:

First – Building integrity in yourselves

First, let's begin in ourselves by committing to being a person of integrity, i.e. to be an honest person. Always tell the truth. Do your work on your own. Abide by rules and regulations. If you promise to do something good for your friends, always keep your promises.

Second - Trusting those around You

Building trust with those around you can be difficult, but it is crucial. We believe that most people possess goodness in their hearts. Family should be our most reliable source of support. We should trust and treasure the love from parents and family members. Also, you should be able to trust your teachers. I encourage you to share your struggles with them in times of difficulty. Their support can be a powerful anchor as you navigate life's challenges.

When it comes to friends, I am not referring to online acquaintances but to those who have been part of your life for years, such as classmates from primary to secondary school. The shared experiences over the years naturally foster trust. Cherish and uphold these relationships, as they can provide comfort and understanding when you need it most.

Third – Believing in God

In today's self-centred society, many overlook the power of faith, and the love that God offers. This indifference can lead us into a cycle of sin, isolating us from God's grace. The Bible reminds us, "We love because HE first loved us." (1 John 4:19) It also states, "God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8)

I sincerely hope that each of you can come to believe that while people may let you down, God is the one with perfect integrity. He remains faithful. His promises of redemption and love are unchanging. I urge each of you to return to the Creator, discovering your purpose in life through Him.

Let's pray together.

Dear Lord, in such an evil and deceptive world, help us uphold our integrity by striving to be an honest person. Help us trust our parents and family members. Give us wisdom to discern who are real friends. Stay with trustworthy friends and keep away from others who are not. Also, let us put our faith in you and enjoy your salvation. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.