



Love Is... | Week 4
Bill Bush | 12.10.2022

BIG IDEA | Trust BRIDGES THE GAP between expectation and experience.

There is a gap between what we expect and what people do. What we put in the gap will determine how good the relationship is.

Two things make trust hard:

- 1. *WHAT* you see**
- 2. *WHO* you are**

1 Corinthians 13:5-7 (NLT)

⁵ or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. ⁶ It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. ⁷ Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.

Thoughts on *TRUST*:

- Love *GIVES* the benefit of the doubt.**
- Love *LOOKS* for the most generous outcome.**
- Love *CHOOSES* trust over suspicion.**

What do I do when the gap is too big?

Matthew 18:15-17 (NLT)

¹⁵ “If another believer sins against you, go privately and point out the offense. If the other person listens and confesses it, you have won that person back. ¹⁶ But if you are unsuccessful, take one or two others with you and go back again, so that everything you say may be confirmed by two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If the person still refuses to listen, take your case to the church. Then if he or she won’t accept the church’s decision, treat that person as a pagan or a corrupt tax collector.

When you can't trust, you must *CHOOSE TO CONFRONT*.

What do I do when the gap is too big?

- **When in doubt, talk it out.**
- **Don't gossip. Don't have imaginary conversations.**
- **Ask for information and assume the best even then.**

THE TRAIL TO TRUST:

1. ***DECIDE* beforehand to believe the best.**
2. ***DEFEND* others when people assume the worst.**
3. ***PURSUE* the truth if experiences erode trust.**
4. ***COMMUNICATE HONESTLY* if you are unable to fulfill a promise.**
5. ***OWN* the gaps you have created.**

1 Corinthians 13:7 (NLT)

⁷ Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.