

FAST Lesson 2B: A Real Man Does What God Wants – Trusting God

John Kain, 2009

- I. If we know in our gut that God is good (he really has our best interest in mind) and God is sovereign (he really is in charge of everything)...well, then we can truly trust him and walk in his love.
- II. The bible is basically a record of God revealing aspects of himself and his attributes and his influence and his interest in mankind over a long period of time - thousands of years. It culminates in a new access to God through the divine Jesus, who came to bring a binding love relationship between God and people which enables intimacy.
- III. To trust God is to understand that he speaks not only to “mankind” but to each of us on a personal level. A graphic example in the Old Testament is Elijah’s encounter with God described in 1 Kings 17 (quoted below). He received specific directions from the Lord. We see in verse 5 that “he did what the Lord had told him.” Some rather interesting things came about as a result. God apparent spoke out loud in Old Testament times. That seems quite awesome to us, but the fact is that he now gets even closer to people that trust him.
- IV. God’s gift of intimacy as revealed by his son Jesus was purchased through the ultimate sacrifice – it’s a gift of great value. By showing that it was not easy to provide, God demonstrated that his love is significant and should not be ignored.
- V. Jesus in turn sent the indwelling spirit to guide and empower those who put their faith in God as revealed through the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Now we know God not only through the natural world and the Word, but through that “inner voice.” Each day we are able to hear God’s direction if we listen to the Holy Spirit.

“Then **the word of the LORD came to Elijah: ‘Leave here, turn eastward** and hide in the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan. You will drink from the brook, and I have ordered the ravens to feed you there.’ **So he did what the LORD had told him.** He went to the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan, and stayed there. The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook.” (1 Kings 17:2-6)

"All this I have spoken while still with you. But **the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said** to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." (John 14:25-27)

"I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity **to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.**" (John 17:22-23)

"Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit." (John 20:21-23)

"After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And **they were all filled with the Holy Spirit** and spoke the word of God boldly. All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but **they shared everything they had.** With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all. **There were no needy persons among them.** For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need." (Acts 4:31-35)