

Dive! FBCD Women's Ministry
Dwell Differently by Natalie Abbott and Vera Schmitz
Chapter 4 (Truth When You Feel Insecure)
December 8, 2024

"But blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD,
whose confidence is in him" (Jeremiah 17:7).

A FOUNDATIONAL PROBLEM

Insecure is defined as:

1. deficient in assurance; beset by fear and anxiety
2. not confident or sure; uncertain
3. not adequately guarded or sustained; unsafe
4. not firmly fastened or fixed; shaky

Questions to Consider Your Foundation:

- What makes you feel confident? A relationship? Your looks? Your bank account? Your intellect? Your success? Your status?
- What makes you feel unsettled, shaky, precarious? Any of those same things?

TWO FOUNDATIONS

⁵ Thus says the LORD:

"Cursed is the man who trusts in man
and makes flesh his strength,
whose heart turns away from
the LORD.

⁶ He is like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see any good come.
He shall dwell in the parched places of
the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷ "Blessed is the man who trusts in
the LORD,
whose trust is the LORD.

⁸ He is like a tree planted by water,
that sends out its roots by the stream,
and does not fear when heat comes,
for its leaves remain green,
and is not anxious in the year of
drought,
for it does not cease to bear fruit."

- Jeremiah 17:5-8 -

Verses 5-6	Verses 7-8
<p><u>"Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength"</u></p> <p>Cursed: divine judgment as a result of disobedience</p> <p>Flesh: impotence, frailty, weakness, sinfulness, corruption; not fit to depend upon</p> <p>KJV: "makes flesh his <u>arm</u>" - what he's depending on and leaning on</p>	<p><u>"Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD"</u></p> <p>Blessed: in a state of well-being or contentment that comes from a right relationship with God</p> <p>"O Lord, be gracious to us; we wait for you. Be our <u>arm</u> every morning, our salvation in the time of trouble" (Isaiah 33:2).</p>
<p><u>"whose heart turns away from the LORD"</u></p> <p>Turn: consciously choose</p>	<p><u>"whose trust is the LORD"</u></p> <p>confidence rooted in the character and promises of God</p>
<p><u>"He is like a shrub in the desert"</u></p> <p>Shrub: small, low, weak; sapless and useless; barren and unfruitful; naked, made bare, destitute; lacks all the means of subsistence; total want of the means of life</p> <p>Interpretation: a person barren of solid comfort for the present and destitute of well-grounded hopes for the future; incapable of producing fruit</p>	<p><u>"He is like a tree planted by water"</u></p> <p>Tree: strength, stability, life</p> <p>Interpretation: a righteous man who is deeply rooted in God's Word, firmly grounded in faith, and drawing sustenance and strength from a divine source</p> <p>Planted: intentional placement and care</p>
<p><u>"and shall not see any good come"</u></p> <p>Shall not see: spiritual blindness</p> <p>Spiritually blind people do not recognize or benefit from God's blessings even when they come.</p>	<p><u>"and does not fear when heat comes"</u></p> <p>KJV: "shall not <u>see</u> when heat cometh"</p> <p>Heat: trials and tribulations</p> <p>Fear: deep-seated anxiety or dread</p>

<p>"He shall dwell in the <u>parched places</u> of the wilderness"</p> <p>Dwell: sit, remain, inhabit; indicates a settled state</p> <p>(Dwell differently!)</p>	<p>"He is like a tree...that sends out its roots <u>by the stream</u>"</p> <p>Roots: depth and foundation</p> <p>Sends out: actively pursues spiritual nourishment through prayer, Scripture, and communion with God</p>
<p>"in an <u>uninhabited</u> salt land"</p> <p>not just uninhabited but uninhabitable</p>	<p>"for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it <u>does not cease to bear fruit</u>"</p> <p>Green leaves: health and vitality</p> <p>Fruit: result of one's faith and actions</p>

Quote: "Where else will you find love that will never fail, nor change, nor die? Where else will you find an object for the intellect that will yield inexhaustible material of contemplation and delight? Where else infallible direction for the will? Where else shall weakness find unfailing strength, or sorrow, adequate consolation, or hope, certain fulfilment, or fear, a safe hiding-place? Nowhere besides. Oh! then, brethren, do, I beseech you, turn away your heart's confidence and love from earth and creatures; for until the roots of your life go down into God, and you draw your life from Him, you are not in your right soil" (*MacLaren's Expositions*).

The Cornerstone: "For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory. And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee" (2 Corinthians 1:20-22).

APPLY THE TRUTH

What are your shaky foundations? Where are you out in the wasteland trying to pull life-giving water out of dry sand?

Where do you need to root your confidence in God?

"I Set My Hope (Hymn for a Deconstructing Friend)"

When this life of trials tests my faith
I set my hope on Jesus
When the questions come and doubts remain
I set my hope on Jesus
For the deepest wounds that time won't heal
There's a joy that runs still deeper
There's a truth that's more than all I feel
I set my hope on Jesus

I set my hope on Jesus
My rock, my only trust
Who set His heart upon me first
I set my hope on Jesus

Though I falter in this war with sin
I set my hope on Jesus
When I fail the fight and sink within
I set my hope on Jesus
Though the shame would drown me in its sea
And I dread the waves of justice
I will cast my life on Calvary
I set my hope on Jesus

I set my hope on Jesus
My rock, my only trust
Who set His heart upon me first
I set my hope on Jesus

Though the world called me to leave my Lord
I set my hope on Jesus
Though it offers all its vain rewards
I set my hope on Jesus
Though this heart of mine is prone to stray
Give me grace enough to finish
'Til I worship on that final day
I set my hope on Jesus

I set my hope on Jesus
My rock, my only trust
Who set His heart upon me first
I set my hope on Jesus