

Volume 3, Day 16: Trust! Don't Pray It Away

In my early days, I wanted life to be certain. I didn't want there to be pain and brokenness. I didn't want other things in my life. And so I would try to pray all the pain, all the need, all the risk out of my life, all the fears even of uncertain futures and trying to get my future in a way where I ultimately wouldn't have to trust Him. And people who go on this journey who have a fear of uncertainty or are anxious about it, I always say to them, "You are on the wrong journey if what you were hoping what God would give you is increased certainty." What God gives us instead is an increased rest in Him in the midst of the uncertainty and the chaos of living in this age.

I guess it was my hope as a younger man that if I really loved God, believed him, He would bless me and my life wouldn't have chaos in it. At 60, I'm a little wiser than that. Despite some of my best decisions at times, and despite some of my most ardent passions, life doesn't turn out the way we want it to. God was never planning to fix all of our chaos. What He wants to do is to be in the chaos with us. What He wants to do is invite us into a different way of living where we wouldn't be so zeroed in on man's interest.

What I think. What I want. How I want to accomplish it. These are natural. But if we'd really be focused in on how God makes Himself known in the world and how God works in me, knowing that what he wants to do in my life is far better than anything I would even choose for myself. At this season of my life, I will tell you I'm not doing anything I imagined I'd be doing as a young man with all the vision and passion I had.