

When Leaders Fail You

(PART 1)

When spiritual leaders disappoint us, our trust in them is broken. Recovery requires forgiveness and faithfulness to God's ongoing commands.

READ: Ps. 37:3-8; Matt. 7:1-5; Matt. 18:21-35; Rom. 12:17-19; Gal. 6:1-2; 1 Cor. 13:4-7.

HEART ISSUE: Like love, trust reflects a choice, not an emotion. We must offer others the same grace we wish to receive.

PRAYER FOCUS: Father, heal the places in our hearts that have been wounded by those who were supposed to shepherd us. Help us to be forgiving and faithful. Amen.

(PART 2)

Church crises require disciplined tongues among those who fear the Lord. Spirit-led believers should help solve problems within the body rather than creating them.

READ: Prov. 6:16-19; Prov. 12:18; James 1:19-20; James 3:1-18; 2 Tim. 2:15-16; Titus 3:9-11.

HEART ISSUE: How can you influence others toward unity?

PRAYER FOCUS: Father, we ask You, as David did, to "set a guard over [our mouths]" (Ps. 141:3-4, NIV). Give us healing words to build up the church—and keep us from tearing her down. Amen.

Read a companion article.