



Monday Matters

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How Trusting Are You?

There is a story told of a mountain climber who liked to climb tall mountains for fun and to impress his friends. After years of preparation and training, he felt he could handle any mountain terrain in the world, regardless of the degree of difficulty.

During a climbing trip with five other men, he decided he would make the final climb to the summit, solo, so he could get there first and claim the glory, while the others slept. As the rest of the climbing party slept, he packed his gear and set out to reach the summit.

Night fell with heaviness at a very high altitude. Visibility was zero. Everything was black. There was no moon, and the stars were covered by clouds.

As he was climbing a ridge at about 100 meters from the top, he slipped and fell. Falling rapidly he could only see blotches of darkness that passed. He felt a terrible sensation of being sucked in by gravity. He kept falling ... and in those anguishing moments he thought he would certainly die. But then he felt a jolt that almost tore him in half. Like any good mountain climber he had staked himself with a long rope tied to his waist. In those moments of stillness, suspended in the air, he had no other choice but to shout out, "Oh dear God in heaven, please help me."



Suddenly from above he heard a strong deep voice boom out, "Cut the rope!" "What?!" As the climber listened over the wind, once again he heard "Cut the rope that is holding you up!"

Except for the wind, silence followed, as the climber continued to hang onto the rope while hoping to be able to grab onto something that would enable him to climb to safety. Unable to see his true situation, the climber concluded that hanging onto the rope was his only hope.

The following day the rest of the climbers discovered him frozen to death, still dangling from the rope. He was only a few feet above a large out-cropping of rock. Had the climber cut the rope, he would have dropped down to a relatively safe area, where he could have built a fire using some of the surrounding scrub brush and probably survived the night.

Although this is merely a saga of adventure, we can learn quite a bit about trusting God. As we climb the mountains in our life there will be times when it seemingly becomes impossible to reach the top. Are we willing to "cut the rope" and trust in God? Are we willing to trust God with the many things in life beyond our knowledge or control? Cut the rope, trust God, for He has great and marvelous things planned for you. He is the God of the mountain.



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