NUDGES 10

Nudges in the right direction



UNDERSTANDING GOD'S VOICE

Trust

Wim Kamphorst

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Foreword

Abraham received an assignment without an address. Leave your country, go to a place that I will show you. He packed his belongings and left. The Bible says it in a sentence that always touches me: he went out, not knowing where he was going.

> *“Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.”*
> Proverbs 3:5

For me, trust is not a theory. I have had to learn it at moments when I did not yet see the proof. On mission trips without money. With a promise that took years to arrive. With choices whose outcome I did not know.

This booklet is about trusting a God who speaks. These are nudges: small pushes to take the next step, even when you do not yet see the whole way.

Wim Kamphorst, founder of (F)Luister Nederland

Introduction

Trust does not say much about you. It says something about the one you trust. You only sit down on a chair when you count on it to hold you. It is the same with God. The better you know Him, the easier it becomes to lean on Him.

That is why trust begins with listening. It is hard to trust someone you never hear speak. But when you get to know His voice and see that He does what He says, something grows in you. You dare more.

> *"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."*
> Hebrews 11:1

A closer look:

The Hebrew word that is translated as trust in Proverbs 3:5 is batach. It has the meaning of feeling safe, of leaning on something with your whole weight. So trust is not hoping a little that it will turn out well. It is letting yourself rest on Someone who carries you.

Chapter 1 Trust begins with who God is

When Jesus was asleep in the boat, a fierce storm arose. The disciples woke Him: “Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?” Jesus got up, spoke to the wind and it became still. Then He asked them a question.

> *“And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?”*
> Mark 4:40

The disciples thought the problem was the storm. Jesus showed that the problem was their picture of Him. They thought He did not care. Whoever looks at God that way becomes afraid of every wave.

Loved before you do anything

My trust in God began at the cross. There Jesus carried everything before I even existed. Even before I could achieve anything, He already loved me. That has laid a foundation under me. When I fall, it hurts. But what lies underneath holds.

When you know you are loved, you also dare to make mistakes. You do not have to know everything for certain before you take a step. A child who knows his father will catch him, jumps.

I am with you

I have known moments when I ended up standing alone, because I voiced a conviction that not everyone appreciated. Then I felt the chill of being alone. Right there I heard His voice: “I am with you, and I will not leave you alone.” The opposition did not disappear. But I never went through it alone again.

> *“In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.”*
> Proverbs 3:6

Honest about your doubt

Trust does not mean that you never doubt. When I believed that God said I could choose Chantal as my wife, I doubted a lot. A house, a garden and a pet was not my dream. I did not push that doubt away. I laid it honestly before God, in a period of fasting and prayer. There came the answer I needed to know that it was He who spoke, and not only my own preference or fear.

That is often how it works. Doubt does not disappear by pretending it is not there. It gets a place when you bring it to God. The Psalms are full of people who say honestly that they can no longer see it, and who, right in the middle of that honesty, begin to trust God again.

Chapter 2 Taking steps on His word

Trust only becomes visible when you move. Abraham did not only trust God in his head. He left.

> *"By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went."*
> Hebrews 11:8

A passport as a first step

At Bible school I once received a prophetic word: you will make short trips to see what God is doing in other countries, and you will share it again in the Netherlands. I tested that impression and received peace to start preparing already. My passport was going to expire within two months. So I renewed it. Not long afterwards I made my first trip to Mongolia.

My first step was not big. It was a new passport. But that is often how trust works. You do not have to make the whole journey right away. You take the step you can take now.

No money in the account

My first four mission trips all began in the same way: with a prophetic word and no money in the account. For Nepal the money came in two weeks before departure. For Myanmar only the day before. And once it came only after the trip, through a loan from the Bible school.

For one of those trips I had sent a newsletter to my church. I expected that people would give something, even if only ten euros. Nothing came. After my presentation in the church I received nice reactions, and zero euros. But the board and the treasurer gave me exactly the amount I needed. The treasurer had prayed about it, and that amount had come to his mind.

I learned that God provides, but often not at my moment and not by the route I had thought of. Trust also means: leaving the timing to Him.

Trust and waiting

My wife and I waited fourteen years for a child. Medically the chance was very small. Yet in those years we received a dream, a vision and later a prophetic word about a daughter. Every time we brought it to God, we experienced peace. That is why we kept trusting His guidance. In 2025 we were allowed to hold our daughter in our arms.

I tell this with caution. I know there are people who waited just as long and whose arms stayed empty. I have no explanation for that and I am not going to invent one. What I do know: trust is not knowing how it will end. It is holding on to who God is, even when you do not understand why it takes so long.

> *"But I trusted in thee, O LORD: I said, Thou art my God. My times are in thy hand."*
> Psalm 31:14-15

Trusting even when you are mistaken

Trusting God does not mean you never make mistakes. I once had an impression about Cuba. I watched two documentaries and stayed alert, but no confirmation came at all. So I let that impression go. Without drama. That too is trust: believing that God does not drop you when you have misjudged something.

Chapter 3 How do you grow in trust?

Trust grows like a muscle. By using it, even when it is scary. A few nudges:

1. **Get to know God**

   This week read a Gospel and pay attention only to how Jesus deals with people. Write down what you discover about His character. The better you know Him, the easier it becomes to lean on Him.

2. **Keep your history with God**

   Write down when God has spoken and what He has done. Big and small things. Read it back when you doubt. Your own history with Him is an anchor when things get tense.

3. **Take one small step**

   Is there something you think God is laying on your heart? Ask: what is the smallest step I can take now? A conversation, a sign-up, a new passport. Afterwards, pay attention to peace or unrest.

4. **Leave the timing to Him**

   Write down a promise or desire that you have been waiting for a long time. Say in prayer: “My times are in Your hand.” Do that every day for a week. Notice what changes in your heart, even if nothing changes on the outside.

5. **Consult before it becomes costly**

   Does a step also affect others, such as your partner, your family or your finances? Discuss it with them first. My wife and I have a simple agreement: as soon as an impression costs someone else money or time, we consult first. Trusting God goes hand in hand with wisdom.

God does not ask that you see the whole way. He asks that you hold His hand for the next step.

FAQ

Question: How do I know whether I am trusting God or just being reckless?
Answer: Test your impression against the Bible, against the character of Jesus and with people who are further along in faith. Pay attention to peace. Recklessness often goes together with haste and pressure. Trust can wait, consult and take a small step before the big one comes.

Question: I trusted God and it turned out differently than I thought. Now what?
Answer: That is painful, and it is allowed to hurt. Bring your disappointment honestly to God, as the Psalms do too. Ask Him what He wants to show you. Sometimes the what was right, but not the when. Sometimes you were mistaken. In both cases He does not let go of you.

Question: How can I trust when I am afraid?
Answer: Trust is not the absence of fear. It is taking a step while the fear is still there. I learned that obedience does not begin when the fear is gone, but when trust becomes greater than the fear. Start small and tell God honestly what you are afraid of.

At whispermagazine.org you can read true stories of people who heard God speak, learn more about hearing His voice and read our free Whisper magazine.

About (F)Luister Nederland

(F)Luister Nederland is a movement that wants to help believers understand the voice of God and grow in it. We believe that God still speaks today and that His children can learn to recognize, understand and obey His voice.

Our mission

We want to equip and encourage people to walk in relationship with Jesus in their daily lives, led by the Holy Spirit. It is our desire that more and more followers of Jesus learn to listen to His whisper and take bold steps in response.

Our vision

We see a church and a society in which God's voice is central once again. Where believers do not only listen to sermons or opinions, but live out of an intimate relationship with their Father in heaven. A generation that understands God's voice and, as a result, makes a difference in their surroundings.

Together we learn to understand His voice

There is more

This booklet is a nudge in the right direction. Do you want to go further? Whisper has more to help you on your way.

Whisper magazine
Our free magazine, to read online. **whispermagazine.org/magazine.html**

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Trust

Listening to Him. Taking steps without seeing everything.

God speaks. Every day. Not only to prophets or spiritual leaders, but to each one of us. The problem is not that He is silent, but that we often do not tune in properly.

In this book, Wim Kamphorst takes you on a journey to learn to recognize, understand and obey the voice of God. You will discover:

- why trust begins with who God is, not with what you see;
- how you take steps on a word from God, even without money in the account;
- five nudges to grow in trust.

Wim Kamphorst began his first mission trips with only a prophetic word, never with money in the account. Again and again he learned that God provides, often at a different moment than he expected.

With personal testimonies, clear Bible passages and practical examples, this book makes clear that trusting God in every step is something that is close to God's heart.

God speaks.
Do you dare to take the next step?

