PART 3

THE CHURCH

Can You Be Trusted With Power?

We're continuing to look at how trust has shown up in the story of "The Church" – the 2000 years between the Bible story and our current story. Today we're looking at an incredible man of faith who played a key role in the development of the United States. George Washington was trusted by his soldiers; he was trusted by his colleagues; and he was trusted by the people of the thirteen colonies who were thrilled to have him as their first president. But what made him most remarkable was his response to power. We all want power in some form but there's a limit in terms of how much power we can handle.

Scripture: John 1:15-27

Reflection:

Questions:

1. What do you first think of when you hear the word, "Washington"? Is it positive or negative? Why?

2. It's true that George Washington had hundreds of slaves who helped him become very wealthy. Even though he freed his slaves before he died, does this shape your thoughts of him as a hero or even as a great man?

3. We all want "power" in some form – whether it's to be influential, known or appreciated. What does your desire for power look like? In what ways are you most tempted by power?

4. Have you ever experienced too much power? Power that was beyond your control and led to pride or mistreatment of others?

5. Read John 1:19-22. How would you have responded if you were John the Baptist and huge crowds wanted to know if you were the new king?

6. In your area of strength, is this a season when you should be continuing to strive and grow? Or, based on your circumstances and relationships, should you be backing off a little?