

TRUST THE FOUNDATION



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As *Women of Peace and Hope* who are trying to grow in holiness through service to the people of God, we need to build our lives on a strong foundation. What is the foundation of your life? As in the story of the three little pigs, will it be blown down by the first gust of life's woes? Or perhaps if it is a bit stronger, could it succumb to the internal fires of doubt, fear and/or greed?

As members, I believe that our foundations are built on the love of God for us, on His church with its saving help of the sacraments and the saints, as well as on the faith and **hope** that He will guide us as we walk with Him.

This trust leaves us vulnerable, like a little child, but we are reminded that He asked us to become like little children. Vulnerability opens our hearts to the needs of others. It allows us to embrace one another in freedom and honesty, to stand together, giving and receiving courage to continue facing each new tomorrow. Some would call this humility. The stories are legion of all that God has accomplished through His humble ones.

Jesus often summoned His followers to come away to a deserted place with Him. Here they got back to basics and learned to see things through His eyes. To see with the eyes of God sometimes means we also have to be the voice that cries out in the wilderness. Such authentic living means that we are willing to embrace

suffering and to endure hardship as we walk with others at home and abroad in their struggles for justice, **peace** and **hope**.

Through it all, Jesus promised that His Spirit, the Spirit of love, would be with us. "For once you have begun to walk with God, you need only keep on walking with Him and all of life becomes one long stroll – such a marvelous feeling." wrote Etty Hillesum, a young woman who died in the Holocaust. (*Etty Hillesum An Interrupted Life*, Henry Holt and Company, New York, 1996)

To embrace what we believe means to embrace the consequences and to proclaim and teach. Recently we have seen the fruits of this belief at the Olympics, as Canadian athletes believed they could excel in their chosen fields. They proclaimed the mantra of "I believe" and many of us are wearing the garments to prove it!

Asserting such strong belief never goes unnoticed. Are you prepared to speak of the source of your strength, the source of your bold and daring action in the world? Do you cling to the strength of your foundation and tell people about it? Is trust your foundation? Become a walking advertisement "For God and Canada!" †

The word "TRUST" is written in large, bold, metallic letters that appear to be mounted on a red brick wall. The letters have a three-dimensional, embossed look with shadows and highlights.