

# FaithBIT



## My Compass in Life by Kelly Kautz

At the beginning of the 2017-18 school year, I chose the word “TRUST” as my word to guide me throughout the year, and it continues to be the word that I turn to as I take on new adventures.

This summer as I canoed in the Boundary Waters for the first time with a group of ILC women, I was worried about getting lost, and grateful for my friends, Barb and Deb, who had been in the BWCA before and knew how to read the maps. We headed out and before long we were surrounded by water and islands and land that all looked the same to me. My map was in front of me, on my Duluth pack, but it made no sense to me in relationship to my surroundings. Yet, I trusted Barb & Deb (and Deb’s compass) and we arrived safely at our destination at day’s end.



**“Just as I must rely on my compass  
in the BWCA, so I rely on my com-  
pass in life - God’s word, prayer  
and my ‘faith friends.’”  
- Kelly Kautz**

The next day, I began to learn how to read the map and notice the landmarks, not yet independently, but with guidance. I learned how vital the compass is in navigating, to confirm our location and to guide our path. Often my idea of where we were, based on looking at the map and studying our surroundings, was wrong. Proceeding without checking the compass would have taken me in the wrong direction.

Sometimes I feel overwhelmed and lost in life. I question myself and my abilities. Then I remember my word - TRUST! I don’t trust blindly. Just as I must rely on my compass in the BWCA, so I rely on my compass in life - God’s word, prayer and my “faith friends.” Reading the Bible reminds me of God’s promises for me and what God expects of me, through prayer I put my trust in God (yet again), and my faith friends encourage and guide me as God is at work in and through them. Trusting in my faith compass, I am able to walk along life’s path with confidence.

Proverbs 3: 5-6 “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.”