

A Matter of Trust

The relationship between a movie actor and a director can make or break a movie. A *USA Today* film critic writes, "In some directors' hands, an actor remains a lump of coal. In others, that same performer will metamorphose into a shining diamond onscreen."

She says Katharine Hepburn did her greatest films with director George Cukor. When Hepburn matched up with a different director, Stuart Millar, her movies suffered.

John Wayne did 15 memorable movies with director John Ford, but the luster left when he worked with John Huston.

Cary Grant was at his best with director Howard Hawks, but couldn't bear to watch his own performance in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, which he did with director Frank Capra.

What is the key to a consistently winning pair? Richard Brown, professor of cinema studies at New York's School for Social Research, says, "It is only about one thing -- trust. A director must trust that an actor has the character inside him or her and that it is within an actor's range. An actor must trust a director with his performance, his work and his image onscreen."

That conclusion makes perfect sense in any productive relationship, and it is definitely true in the work of Life Care, American Lifestyles and Life Care at Home. We will always have the best outcomes from a team in which its members are appropriately developed and have trust in the performance and attitudes of each other.

Trust is also at the heart of our relationship with the Divine Director, Jesus Christ. Christ has absolute confidence that by His Spirit He can make us into something glorious. The only question is: Do we trust Him to bring out what is best in us?

--Beecher Hunter