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Trust

Beth Turner Ayers

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Photography Stephanie Kelly



Trust

Beth Turner Ayers

Powerful words have purpose.
They are written and spoken aloud.
They pass through time and time again
Until the meaning may be muddled,
Twisted into contradiction.

Consider the shepherd.
Keeper of the flock,
Vigilant always,
Watching for danger,
Eyes and ears alert,

Guiding with the staff,
Ready to defend
With the rod.
To protect.
Not harm.

Not hit
In a futile effort to teach.
Spare the rod and spoil the child.
It has been written and read,
Used to justify the unjust.

Guidance. Safety. The truest goals.
Protect the child from harm.
Deliver defense.
Misuse the shepherd's tools
And trust is all that spoils.