

Living Out Your Faith in Uncertain Times

Be Humble, Put Your Trust in God

2 Corinthians 3:1-18

When the foundations are being destroyed, what can the righteous do?"

Psalm 11:3

Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold. **2 Corinthians 3:12**

CONFIDENCE THE CHRISTIAN HAS IN THE MIDST OF UNCERTAINTY

1. Our confidence comes from trusting Christ, not _____ for daily strength.

Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Or do we need, like some people, letters of recommendation to you or from you? You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, known and read by everybody. **2 Corinthians 1:1-2**

You show that you are a letter from Christ, the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts. **2 Corinthians 3:3**

Such confidence as this is ours through Christ before God. Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God. **2 Corinthians 3:4-5**

The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid? **Psalm 27:1**

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." **Psalm 91:1-2**

You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday. **Psalm 91:5-6**

At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack

*and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever.
Amen. 2 Timothy 4:16-18*

*I can do everything through him who gives me strength. **Philippians 4:13***

Personality Traits that Indicate You Have a Problem with Spiritual _____

- **Inconsistent prayer life**—“I am not really actively relying on God.”
- **Anger** —“I am not trusting God’s sovereign plan in my life.”
- **Critical spirit**— “inflated sense of self”
- _____ **Reaction to Criticism**—“I take myself too seriously and think too highly of myself.”
- **Taking credit for my success or prosperity**—“I have lost sight of God’s gracious provision.”
- **Impatience to listen, wait, or serve**—“overdeveloped sense of self-importance”

2. Our confidence comes from relying on _____, not the law for our eternal salvation.

He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant—not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. 2 Corinthians 3:6

and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.

Hebrews 2:15

The Christian is confident when they face _____, because they rely on grace—not judgment from the law.

Now if the ministry that brought death, which was engraved in letters on stone, came with glory, so that the Israelites could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of its glory, fading though it was, will not the ministry of the Spirit be even more glorious? If the ministry that condemns men is glorious, how much more glorious is the ministry that brings righteousness! 2 Corinthians 3:7-9

Old Covenant

- Moses at Mt. Sinai
- Fading glory
- Faded with time
- Condemnation and death
- All about works

New Covenant

- Jesus at Mt. Calvary
- Increasing glory
- Increased with time
- Trusting in the perfection of Jesus
- All about grace

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. Ephesians 2:8-9

3. Our Confidence comes from deepening _____, not our reputation for personal fulfillment.

We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to keep the Israelites from gazing at it while the radiance was fading away. But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, because only in Christ is it taken away. Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. 2 Corinthians 3:13-18

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! 2 Corinthians 5:17

“For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 1:5-8

The older you get as a Christian, the more _____ your character should be on the inside to God.

Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. 2 Corinthians 4:16

Humility is not thinking less of yourself, humility is not really thinking about yourself ____ .

“We’d all like to be humble, but what if nobody notices?”—John Ortberg

“I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. John 15:5

Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold. 2 Corinthians 3:12

And He said: "I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 18:3

Key: ourselves, Pride, Defensive, grace, death, character, attractive, at all