

FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

Confidence

July 14, 2020

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Confidence means to be free from fear or doubt; to be fully persuaded that God can accomplish and do what is needed. As believers our confidence gets put to the test by the circumstances of the world. Confidence is linked to insight – when fear is removed the ability to see and discern accurately is increased. When our confidence is shaken it is an assault on our identity. In our hearts and mind we start to doubt who we are.

God is very clear about our identity. As believers in Christ we are heirs and joint-heirs with Jesus. We are the head and not the tail. We are more than conquerors and can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.

Jeremiah 29.11 NIV

¹¹“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, **“plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”**

Hebrews 10.35 NIV

³⁵ **So do not throw away your confidence;** it will be richly rewarded.

Hebrews 13.5b-6, 8 NIV

⁵“Never will I leave you;
never will I forsake you.”

⁶ So we **say with confidence,**
“The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.

What can mere mortals do to me?”

⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

2 Timothy 1.12 NIV

¹² **...I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until that day.**

It is imperative to KNOW who we believe, who we have put our trust in. KNOW GOD. KNOW that nothing is impossible for Him. KNOW Him through relationship. Believe His promises. Stand on His word of truth. There is divisiveness in our culture. Protests, riots, fake news, persecution of the church, political wrangling unrighteous agendas, accusations, name calling, and intimidation come to take away our confidence in the Lord. All of these arguments and narratives and dynamics can drown our hope – leaving us paralyzed and unable to move.

Confidence is linked with action. When we lose our confidence, we can not see – we cannot advance into our God-given future. Confidence is formed by what we believe – it is the outcome of our thoughts. When we look at the world today and think “impossible”, we won’t have confidence. This is when we become a victim of circumstances. Confidence is an anchor. When we lose confidence, we are no longer anchored to the hope God has placed into our hearts. We lose our way.

We are in a war. There are mind-binding spirits, bullying spirits, intimidation, name calling, false accusations, cultural pressure to conform a certain way and fear mongering are all at work to conform us to the world and its ways. **But God says not to conform to this world but be transformed by the renewing of your minds.**

Confidence is linked to the prophetic – it is about what is to come. What is the future going to look like? Who is going to be in charge? How is it going to work for me and my family, my community? Insecurity, fear and intimidation come to keep us from “taking hold” of our future as God has defined it. The Bible instructs us to put no confidence in the flesh, for the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace. **Set your mind on things above.**

Philippians 3.12-14 NIV

¹² Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, **but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.** ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: **Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead,** ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

The **KEY** right now is to **TAKE HOLD.** To reach out into the invisible realm and lay hold of the future. The assault on our identity and confidence we have in our LORD AND SAVIOR is to keep us from TAKING HOLD of the future and bringing it into the NOW.

The future belongs to God. And we belong to Him. He is the beginning and the end. The future has already been written in heaven. We do not have to know what the future looks like to lay hold of it just as Paul did. We take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of us. Think of it like overhead monkey bars on the playground. To move forward we must reach out and take hold of the next bar, letting go of the bar behind. We do that again and again to move forward. We do this WITH CONFIDENCE because we know who we believe in.

Lana Vawser posted a prophetic word yesterday that she first prophesied four years ago in 2016. In that prophetic word the Lord spoke to her that the enemy was going to put the nations in lockdown through a spirit of fear, but God would raise up an army decreeing, “Nations be unlocked!”

THERE IS A "TIPPING POINT", "DEFINING MOMENT" AMONG THE NATIONS RIGHT NOW.

I felt the Lord saying in the Spirit right now, there is a tipping point and defining moment among the nations. That we as God's people need to declare the opposite to "lockdown" and that being "UNLOCK".

We are really being called to take our place and pray like never before. To follow the strategy of heaven, to follow His heart and leading even if it is completely out of the box to what we have ever seen. We are not only birthing in our individual lives but birthing to affect the nations. Your baptism in the fire of His love in this season is not just for you but for the sake of the nations. You have a part to play! Everywhere you go, release His love! Everywhere you go, ask the Spirit of God what He is doing and partner with Him! Everywhere you go, love well! Everywhere you go, PRAY and release the Kingdom. The light and Glory of God is going to be seen brighter than ever and the nations unlocked by love, their destiny and identity awakened as the people of God arise! As WE take our place!

The destiny of nations hangs in the balance! Let's lock arms and continue to move forward in love and prayer and push back the darkness to see the goodness of God explode all across the earth and the enemy turned on his head!

Psalm 65.5 TPT

⁵ You answer our prayers with amazing wonders and with awe-inspiring displays of power. You are the righteous God who helps us like a father. Everyone everywhere looks to you, for **you are the confidence of all the earth,** even to the farthest islands of the sea.

Psalm 91.2 TPT

² He's the hope that holds me and the Stronghold to shelter me,
the only God for me, and my great confidence.

Psalm 118.9 TPT

⁹ **Yes, it is so much better to trust in the Lord to save me**
than to put my confidence in celebrities.

Proverbs 29.25 TPT

²⁵ Fear and intimidation is a trap that holds you back.
But **when you place your confidence in the Lord,**
you will be seated in the high place.

Isaiah 32.17 TPT

¹⁷ The work of righteousness is peace,
and the result of righteousness
is quietness and **confidence forever.**

John 16.33 TPT

³³ And everything I've taught you is so that **the peace which is in me will be in you and will give you great confidence as you rest in me.** For in this unbelieving world you will experience trouble and sorrows, but you must be courageous, for I have conquered the world!"

1 Corinthians 15.58 TPT

⁵⁸ So now, beloved ones, **stand firm and secure. Live your lives with an unshakable confidence.**

With confidence and boldness, we lock arms and declare nations be unlocked! Detroit and Michigan be unlocked! Families and communities be unlocked! God-given futures be unlocked! We TAKE HOLD of the future declaring God's kingdom come and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven. We agree with what God has already written in heaven about the future.