

## Having Faith & Confidence

19 January 2008

**(Hebrews 11:1)** Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

*"Evidence"* in Greek is **Confidence**.

*So what is faith?*

**Confidence of things not seen that you know you are going to get it.**

Faith is a **positive attitude confidence** you have that you know that God is with you, and nothing is going to stop you. Because you know God is leading you and guiding you every step of the way.

Confidence is the ability to hold your own.

**(Hebrews 10:35)** Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward.

Confidence has a tendency to leak out of your life, making you fearful. To feel worrisome and stress out by people and situation all around you. Therefore do not cast away your confidence!

Confidence is not being rude, not carrying a pride that you are better than everyone else. It is a confidence that you know **God loves you; God is with you; God is going to carry you through** because everything is going to be alright.

**Faith and confidence** in the Bible is use interchangeability.

So to make God happy, you got to have confidence. Walk by faith and not by sight.

The anointing of God can only flow through you if you have confidence in God.

Confidence is the attitude of how you carry and move God's power.

Without the confidence in life, your goals and visions will not come to life.

Read **Matthew 4:1-9**.

**(Matthew 4:3)** Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread."

**(Matthew 4:6)** and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you,' and, 'In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.' "

**(Matthew 4:9)** And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me."

God was tested three times by the devil, "If you are the son of God ... prove it." Using all the "if".

Devil was testing God to prove Himself.

Those verses show that the devil really knows the Bible. Hence in order to defeat the devil, you really need to know the Bible.

The greatest weapon that the devil will throw towards you is to **make you forget who you are**. Wanting you to always prove that God is with you.

The greater you are an influence to the city, the greater threat you are to the devil. Greater the devil wants to throw you to make you forget who you are.

Satan always want to undermine your spiritually and doubt who you are in God.

But in those verses above, God has never wanted to prove Himself to the devil. For He does not need to.

*"Why not Jesus just proves Himself once and for all?"*

For if Jesus tries to prove, means He was reacting in fear and afraid of what the devil might say, of what other people might think.

Therefore if you move in a negative direction and without faith, you will immediately displease God.

The moment you act on negative comments, you strengthen the power of it. The more you worry, the more worry you will be. The more you give in to stress, the more you will be stressful.

Conversely, the more you give in to faith, the more confidence you will be.

*"Whatever you act upon, you strength."* – **Pastor Kong Hee**

**(Matthew 11:2)** And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples

**(Matthew 11:3)** and said to Him, "Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?"

*So how did Jesus respond?*

(**Matthew 11:4**) Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and tell John the things which you hear and see:

(**Matthew 11:5**) The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them.

Jesus had to do with God told Him to do even if John was not happy. That is why God said ....

(**Matthew 11:6**) And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me."

"Offended" in Greek is **Scandalize** - "*trip up, stumbled, enticed to sin!*"

**Key to confidence is Revelation.**

Faith comes by **hearing** and **hearing by the Rhema** (*word of God*).

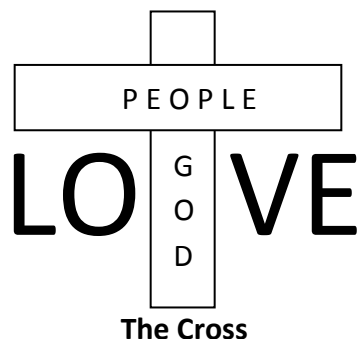
(**John 13:3**) Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God,

Jesus knew where He came from. Jesus knew what God had given to Him. And Jesus knew where he was going to go.

**Three things you need to know in your life just like how Jesus knew His:**

1. **Position** – Who are you in Christ?
2. **Power** – What you have? The gifts, talents, abilities and potential yet to be release.
3. **Purpose** – Where are you going with all those power in your life? What is your God given dreams and visions?

#### LIFE MESSAGE



1. **Great Commandment** – Find a need, meet it. Find a hurt, heal it. Love peoples the way God loves you.
2. **Great Commission** – Do missions around the world.
3. **Cultural Mandate** – To be progressive in the marketplace.

**(John 13:4)** rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself.

Confidences give you the power to serve!

**(John 13:14)** If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.

A lot of people cannot serve because they are not confident; not secured in themselves. Yet all great man and woman have the ability to serve.

The more you serve people, the more you will rise to the top.

The Bible way of walking confidence is not proud and pride. But confidence is to embrace humility and be the servant where God has planted you in.

### **Conclusion ...**

1. Confidence will make you please God.
2. Confidence makes you a carrier of God power.
3. Confidence allows you to be an effective servant.

Have a secret place in God that you can turn too.

**(Psalms 91:1)** He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

You do not need to prove anything to anybody.

**(Psalms 23:1)** A Psalm of David. The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

**(Psalms 23:2)** He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.

**(Psalms 23:3)** He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.

David above put God from a 3<sup>rd</sup> person view – “He”. But when he encounters great troubles, God becomes his 2<sup>nd</sup> person view – “You”.

**(Psalms 23:4)** Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

Have a relationship with God and nurture your confidence in God.

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Sermon taken from <http://www.bryanchung.sg>

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