



## CONFIDENCE 2 Wholeness



**THE DEFINITION:** Confidence is a deeply-rooted sense of SURE FOUNDATION, BOLD FAITH + INNER STRENGTH based on fact that the CONFIDENT ONE went BEFORE you, LIVES INSIDE you + WALKS WITH you.

**OPENING PREMISE:** If internally we're LACKING in confidence, FEARFUL, BRUISED, we'll never truly operate in GOD-CONFIDENCE.

- \* The ENEMY is AFTER your confidence, CHIPPING AWAY until you no longer have the STRENGTH to stand.
  - \* His top tactic is to REMIND you of your PAST.
- *How does the Enemy go after your confidence? What tactics does he use? How successfully is he? What do you do about it? What could you do about it?*

### **THE USUAL BASIS of a lack of confidence**

- a) Don't trust GOD    b) Don't trust YOURSELF    c) Don't trust OTHERS
- *What are the warning signs of a lack of confidence? Where does it come from? What effect does it have on you?*
- *What does not trusting God look like? What does not trusting yourself look like? What does not trusting others look like?*
- *At which end does it start? How does a failure to trust God generate the other two? How does relational breakdown start to affect the way you see yourself and ultimately how you relate to God?*
- *How are you personally doing with each of those? How might you change it?*

**WHOLENESS** = in ONE PIECE, UNBROKEN, UNDAMAGED, put BACK TOGETHER again, RESTORED, COMPLETED.

- \* Clearly all come to Jesus somewhat DAMAGED.
  - \* But He is in the business of RESTORING (Isaiah 61:1,2, 1 Thess 5:23)
- *Is it true that everyone comes to Jesus damaged? What might that 'damage' comprise? How does He restore us? How do Isa 61 and 1 Thess 5:23 play into that?*
- *What is wholeness? How would you recognise someone who was whole? (Clue: Jesus is our supreme example)*

### **3 STAGES**

1. JUSTIFICATION = Being made RIGHT with God POSITIONALLY.
2. SANCTIFICATION = The ONGOING work of WORD & SPIRIT, PROGRESSIVELY washing us clean, healing our hearts, renewing our minds, imprinting us with Jesus and making us WHOLE.
3. GLORIFICATION = At the END, given a new BODY so we can live with Jesus forever in His Father's house.

**Heb 4:16 (NIV)** → *Let us then APPROACH God's throne of grace with CONFIDENCE, so that we may receive MERCY and find GRACE to help us in our time of need.*

### **1. Because of the BLOOD we can COME**

- \* The starting point: HOW or WHY can we even begin to contemplate approaching the throne? Because Jesus poured His on BLOOD over the MERCY SEAT and then He poured it all over US. (Hebrews 10:19-22, Ephesians 3:12).
- \* SOZO = SAVED, HEALED, DELIVERED, SANCTIFIED, MADE WHOLE.
- \* ONLY the BLOOD can remove SHAME, heal HURTS, fill the VOIDS, give you HOPE and baptise you in LOVE.

→ *Where else do people tend to look as they search for wholeness? What do they try? With what do they try to fill the void, heal the hurt, find the hope, sooth the shame?*

### **2. His MERCY and GRACE are readily AVAILABLE**

- \* Mercy = I DON'T receive what I DO deserve; Grace = I DO receive what I DON'T deserve.

→ *How would you explain to someone the distinctions between mercy and grace?*

- \* SOLUTION to any BROKENNESS, WOUNDEDNESS, INCOMPLETENESS = GRACE
- \* GRACE = His POWER and ABILITY in and through you to powerfully do what you WISH you could do ON YOUR OWN but just CAN'T.

→ *Is there anything you wish you could do, change, fix, but just can't? How do you go about finding the grace to help? What does grace do and how does it work?*

→ *What are the substitutes for grace and why do they not work? i.e. How do people try to fix it themselves?*

- \* Grace is RECEIVED; That's why you have to COME (Matt 11:28,29, John 7:37,38)
- \* Let the grace of God MAKE YOU WHOLE, piece by piece (2 Tim 2:1, 1 Pet 5:10, 2 Cor 12:9)

### **3. The TREASURE is to be found in His PRESENCE**

- \* The answer to many questions is to HEAR the WORD and RESPOND to the SPIRIT (Prov 4:20-22, 2 Cor 3:18).
- \* God CONFIRMS His WORD with SIGNS & WONDERS following (Mark 16:20).
- \* God's Presence is an UNTAPPED TREASURE TROVE.

→ *How do Word and Spirit combine to make us healthy & whole? What part do they both play in transformation and renewal?*

→ *What riches are to be found in the presence of God? What happens or might happen when God 'shows up'?*

### **RESPONSE THOUGHTS**

→ *How are you progressing on the journey to wholeness? What is the Lord doing in your life right now? Are you embracing the process of sanctification? Do you come? DO you receive? What grace do you need to pray for today?*