



## Confidence, The Bottom Line



On a contract – when we sign it – it says that what is written there is what we have confidence to do to keep our part of the bargain. Like a mortgage, we sign it because we have confidence that we will earn enough money to make the mortgage payments.

We all have a certain level of confidence – some higher than others, some lower. People who have little or no confidence live frustrated, disappointing lives – never seeing the fulfillment of what God’s special plan and purpose for their life was. Never stepping up to a higher level in the things of God.

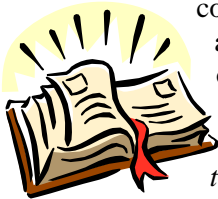


People with lack of confidence never sign the bottom line, because they live in fear – not realizing that if God calls us to do something, He will enable us to do it by His Spirit that dwells in us. This means we don’t have to be afraid, but we can enjoy the peace and fulfillment of a confident life. God gives confidence, but the devil works to steal it away.

*“Submit yourselves unto God. Resist (stand against, oppose) the devil and he will flee (run fast) from you.” (James 4:7)*

The devil brings fear into our hearts when we get anxious about something that is out of our control – when we are afraid of losing something we want to keep. When fear comes in, confidence goes out. Fear of loss of health, loss of husband, loss of children, loss of beauty, loss of hair, loss of youth, loss of job, loss of money, loss of home – worry about all of these things can make us feel helpless because we can’t do anything about them.

Fears come from our past experiences and what we have seen and heard from other people. But, confidence comes from our inner being because God’s Word overcomes fear and Jesus has overcome the devil. He gave us the same power and authority over the devil that He had. We see this in Luke 10:18,19 where Jesus said, *“I saw Satan as lightning fall from heaven. Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions (demonic spirits), and over all the power of the enemy.”*



There are basically three things that rob us of our confidence:

1. The consequences of past mistakes.
2. The weakness of our human nature.
3. Life’s temptations and trials we go through.

(Cont'd)

We have been raised in a culture that places high value on accomplishment and worldly success. From childhood we were bombarded with the ideal of high achievement.

We had to compete with brothers and sisters, and then for grades in school, and then for achievement at work. A standard was set up inside of us so we think we have to achieve some great success to be a winner and if we fail to measure up to what is expected of us, or what we expect of ourselves, we consider ourselves a loser. Once we see ourselves that way, low self-esteem and feelings of inadequacy rob us of quality of life and make us lose confidence in certain areas of our life.



Because of the lack of appropriate role models in our childhood, many of us continue to allow our worth and self-esteem to be determined by what we can do and what other people think about us instead of by who we are in Christ. Looking back at the past can continue to make us feel like losers and creates an environment of stress and anxiety in us.

God knew this so He had Paul write, *“Don’t be anxious or worried about anything in your life, but in everything by prayer and honest petition, with giving thanks for the answer, let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, that passes all understanding, will keep your heart and mind (in confidence of your salvation, and fearing nothing) through Christ Jesus.”* (Phillipians 4:6,7)

The words you hear yourself say, to yourself and to others can build up or tear down your confidence. Stop speaking words of doubt and unbelief about yourself. Speak words of confidence to yourself, to others and to God. When you pray speak God’s promises to answer your prayers in the Name of Jesus, and from then on thank Him that He has heard you and believe you have the thing you prayed for.

God likes it when His people have confidence in His power to work through them. We can pray as Paul did in Phillipians 4:13 AMP, *I have strength for all things in Christ who empowers me. (I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him who infuses inner strength into me; I am self-sufficient in Christ’s sufficiency!)”*

Be encouraged that God is able, even when we are not. He has His eye on you and is waiting for you to show confidence in Him. It is faith that opens the door for God’s greatness to be seen through our lives. Keep pressing forward toward God and always remember that the devil is a liar.



*“Cast not away your confidence which has great repayment of reward”* (Hebrews 10:35)

*“This is the confidence we have in Him, if we ask anything according to His will he hears us, and if we know that He hears us, then we know that we have the petition we asked of Him.”* (1 John 5:14,15)



## *Confidence, The Bottom Line*

1. Why don't people who lack confidence sign the bottom line?

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2. How do we keep the devil away from us? \_\_\_\_\_

3. When does the devil bring fear in our hearts? \_\_\_\_\_

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4. What are three basic things that rob us of our confidence?

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

5. Why do we think we have to achieve great success to be a winner?

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6. What does looking back at the past do? \_\_\_\_\_

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7. In what Scripture does God tell us not to worry about anything?

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8. What can tear down or build up my confidence? \_\_\_\_\_

9. Where do we get strength for all things? \_\_\_\_\_

10. What is the only thing we need to always remember about the devil?

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11. Why should we always keep our confidence in God? (Hebrews 10:35)  
(The answer to this question will be your memory verse)

MEMORY VERSE \_\_\_\_\_

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## *Confidence, The Bottom Line*

1. Why don't people who lack confidence sign the bottom line?

Because they live in fear.

2. How do we keep the devil away from us? Resist him.

3. When does the devil bring fear in our hearts?

When we are afraid of losing something we want to keep.

4. What are three basic things that rob us of our confidence?

- 1) Consequences of past mistakes
- 2) Weakness of our human nature
- 3) Life's temptation and trials

5. Why do we think we have to achieve great success to be a winner?

A standard was set up inside of us.

6. What does looking back at the past do?

Continue to make us feel like losers.

7. In what Scripture does God tell us not to worry about anything?

Philippians 4:6,7

8. What can tear down or build up my confidence? The words that I speak.

9. Where do we get strength for all things? In Christ.

10. What is the only thing we need to always remember about the devil?

He is a liar!

11. Why should we always keep our confidence in God? (Hebrews 10:35)

MEMORY VERSE "Cast not away your confidence which has great repayment of reward"