.00000Finding Your Confidence in God March 15, 2020

*Psalm 27 Series: Hope from Israel’s Oldest Playlist*

The beginning of anxiety is the end of faith, and the beginning of true faith is the end of anxiety. – George Mueller

Intro: God is greater than more toilet paper.

1. Find confidence by trusting in God’s protection.
2. You would otherwise throw up a white flag.

v. 2 *evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh*

v. 2 *my adversaries and foes*

v. 3 *an army encamp against me*

v. 3 *war arise against me*

1. Affirming your trust strengthens your confidence.

v. 1 *The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?*

v. 1 *The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?*

v. 2 *it is they who stumble and fall*

v. 3 *my heart shall not fear*

v. 3 *yet I will be confident*

v. 13 *I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD*

1. Your trust needs resolve when you have to wait.

v. 14 *Wait for the LORD … wait for the LORD!*

v. 14 *be strong, and let your heart take courage*

Joshua 1:9 *Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.*

* George Mueller said that, “the beginning of true faith is the end of anxiety.” Do you agree or disagree? Why?
* What is it about expressing our trust in prayer that gives us confidence?
* Why does waiting for God require such strength and courage?

1. Find confidence by seeking God’s presence.
2. God is everywhere but His nearness must be sought.

v. 4 *One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek …*

v. 4 *that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life*

v. 8 *You have said, “Seek my face.”*

v. 8 *My heart says to you, “Your face, LORD, do I seek.”*

1. God meets us as we seek His presence.

We feel wonder. v. 4

We feel safe. v. 5

We feel hope. v. 6

We feel assurance. v. 10

* If God is everywhere, what does it mean to seek Him?
* Where did David particularly expect to experience the nearness of God?
* Why does time spent in God’s presence have such a powerful influence on us?
* What are some ways that you need to grow in your pursuit of God’s presence?

1. Find confidence by pursuing God’s will.
2. We’re vulnerable when those who should guide us don’t.

v. 10 *my father and my mother have forsaken me*

1. We’re vulnerable when we face stress, opposition and misinformation.

v. 12 *false witnesses have risen against me, and they breathe out violence*

1. There’s no security outside of the will of God.

v. 11 *Teach me your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.*

Psalm 86:11 *Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk in your truth; unite my heart to fear your name.*

* What is it about trials that make us more susceptible to temptations and foolish decisions?
* Should a lack of obedience to God affect our confidence in the midst of trial and difficulties?
* Where do you most need God’s help in applying this message?

Study ahead: Next week, we’ll study Psalm 135.

Notes