

# CONFIDENCE BY THE SPIRIT

Part 3 of Confident Living

Romans 8. The Cornerstone Church, May 23, 2021

## INTRODUCTION: PENTECOST SUNDAY

In times of trouble, when it feels as if the foundations of life are shaking, the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives gives us strength to stand firm. There is supernatural power to press on when life gets hard.

**Today is Pentecost Sunday**, a day to remember that the ascended Lord Jesus Christ has poured out his Spirit on his people. The Holy Spirit makes the Christian life possible from start to finish. It's his presence and power in us.

## SERIES: CONFIDENT LIVING

This is week 3 of our CONFIDENT LIVING\*\* teaching series.

**We're focused on ten spiritual practices** that help us prevail under pressure.

Today's spiritual practice is **CONFIDENCE BY THE SPIRIT**.

## THE SPIRIT IN ROMANS 8

Romans chapter 8 is one of my "go to" chapters in the Bible. When the storms of life beat against us, this is a great place to find shelter.

It's a chapter about the Holy Spirit in our lives. I found eight reasons for confidence because of the Holy Spirit. We'll race through all eight. Let's go ...

# EIGHT REASONS FOR CONFIDENCE IN THE SPIRIT

## Reason One: New Proclamation

We can be confident because God has proclaimed these words over us:

(Romans 8:1) there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,

We are all guilty sinners, but because God condemned Jesus in our place at the cross, and because Christ's righteousness was credited to us, God does not condemn us. Imagine him proclaiming that over you: *No condemnation in Christ.*

The devil will accuse you, but tell yourself the truth, "I am in Christ by faith; God does not condemn me."

## Reason Two: New Power

We can be confident because the Holy Spirit is powerfully at work in us:

- He is the Spirit who gives us spiritual life - verses 2-3. (Romans 8:2) because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.
- He is the Spirit who gives us spiritual direction - verses 4-14. (Romans 8:13-14) ... if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live. 14 For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.

When you feel like you've reached your limit, remember you have supernatural resources to keep going. God, the Holy Spirit, is working in you to give you spiritual life and direction.

### **Reason Three: New Promise**

We can be confident because of the Spirit's promise that we are God's children:

(Romans 8:15-16) ... the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." 16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

I was with my brother, Mark, at my mother's wake. My father died two years before my mom and I was feeling very sad. I put my arm on Mark's shoulder and said, "We're orphans." I felt devastated.

It helps me to know that I am adopted by God. I am his child. I have the right to go to him to receive his parental love and help.

### **Reason Four: New Perseverance**

We can be confident because the Spirit gives us hope:

(Romans 8:17) Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

Following Jesus may bring us hardship or loss, but we should not give suffering the final word. No, if we persevere in faith we will share in the glory of Christ. That's our inheritance. That's the final word that gives us hope and the strength to persevere through dark days.

## **Reason Five: New Prayer**

We can be confident because the Spirit prays for us:

(Romans 8:26-27) ... the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. 27 And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

There are times we get so discouraged that we don't want to pray. We think, what's the use? In times like that, the Holy Spirit prays for us. He groans in prayer because he identifies with our pain. He says to us, "I got this."

## **Reason Six: New Purpose**

We can be confident because the Spirit will finish what he started:

(Romans 8:28-30) And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. 29 For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. 30 And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

God's purpose is that we will be conformed to the image of his Son. That will be completed when we share in the glory of Christ. It's the Holy Spirit who starts the process and it is the Holy Spirit who carries on the process to completion.

There are many challenges to our faith, but the Holy Spirit never stops working all things for our good. He uses the hardships to refine our faith. He uses the setbacks to remind us how much we need God. He uses our failures to refocus our faith back on Jesus our Savior.

## **Reason Seven: New Perspective**

We can be confident because the Spirit has revealed hidden resources:

(Romans 8:31-32) If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

(Romans 8:34) Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

The apostle Paul didn't think this stuff up. No, the Holy Spirit revealed what is going on in the unseen world.

Father God is working for us. He is giving us everything we need to stay in faith and persevere through the storms of life.

And Jesus is praying for us. He is pleading his blood and saying, "Father, these are the people I purchased for you with my own blood on the cross. Help them. Give them strength. Don't let them give up. Don't let the devil win."

That perspective will energize our faith and fill us with confidence.

## **Reason Eight: New Peace**

We can be confident because the Spirit reveals that we are loved by God:

(Romans 8:37-39) No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord

"The love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord" is love that was displayed in the sacrifice of the cross. And nothing will ever come into our lives that can keep God from loving us like that. That assurance gives us peace in the storm.

## CONCLUSION

What a chapter! If you're in Christ by faith, all of this is yours on your best day and on your worst day. No one can take it from you. It depends on no one but God and he never fails.

Our courage may fail. Our determination may fail. Our energy may fail. But God never fails.

The Christian faith is not about our performance. It's about God's promise and power, which never fail.

When the hard times blast away at you. When the devil defeats you. When your emotions are dark and your soul feels dry. Remember this. God never fails. All eight of these beautiful truths are true for you forever.

Hallelujah! Praise God.

### **Let's pray.**

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the truth you have revealed in the Bible. Holy Spirit, help us to apply today's teaching in our lives. Amen.

Access today's teaching notes = [FamousGod.com//teaching-notes](http://FamousGod.com//teaching-notes)

---

\*\* I got the idea for this teaching series from David Jeremiah and his book and DVD series called Living with Confidence in a Chaotic World.

# ORDER OF SERVICE

## Sunday, May 23, 2021

# Contemporary Service

Confidence by the Spirit,  
Romans 8 - Pentecost  
Sunday

May 23, 2021

Confident Living

Length  
in mins

0:30	<b>Welcome &amp; Prayer -Dakota</b>
4:27	<i>the house of the lord</i> Dakota
5:56	<i>Holy Spirit</i> latrice
3:00	<b>College students - Jonah, Joey</b> invite kids to stay for communion
10:00	<b>Communion - Tami</b> confession of sins (interaction) absolution communion
0:45	<b>Pray &amp; Dismiss Kids - Shawn</b>
5:14	<i>Tremble</i> Latrice
3:00	<b>Intercession prayer - Tami</b>
25:00	<b>Teaching: Confidence by the Spirit</b>
6:54	<i>Here's My Heart</i> Dakota
1:30	<b>Updates - Peter</b>
0:30	<b>Blessing - Peter</b>
66:46	

## Updates

Campus Beautification

Available online during the week. (Make table)

Plus 10 - step out of debt