



## UNSHAKEABLE CONFIDENCE

### Part Four: “Confidence in Christ Alone”

We’ll never be free to live fully in the present until we can  
\_\_\_\_\_ with our future.

Read Philippians 3:12-21

#### KEYS TO CONFIDENCE FOR THE FUTURE

1. *Paul’s life was \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ.*

*“...And it is for this reason that I suffer these things. But I AM STILL FULL OF CONFIDENCE, because I KNOW WHOM I HAVE TRUSTED, and I am sure that he is able to keep safe until that Day what he has entrusted to me.”*

2 Timothy 1:12 GNT

**In Christ, we can have UNSHAKEABLE CONFIDENCE even though the future is \_\_\_\_\_.**

- *“Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved” (Acts 16:31)*
- *“Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved” (Acts 2:21)*
- *“If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved” (Romans 10:9).*

**When our future is secure in Christ, our present can be lived with**  
\_\_\_\_\_.

2. Paul embraced God's \_\_\_\_\_ for his life.

*“The real question is whether we will continue to live according to our early life story, or embrace the new chapter that God is writing for our future.”*

*“...Looking unto Jesus, the AUTHOR and FINISHER of our faith.”*  
Hebrews 12:2 NKJV

When you focus on God's story for your life, you have \_\_\_\_\_.

3. Paul chose a \_\_\_\_\_ perspective.

*“For I FULLY EXPECT AND HOPE that I will never be ashamed, but that I will continue to be bold for Christ, as I have been in the past. And I trust that my life will bring honor to Christ, whether I live or die. For to me, living means living for Christ, and dying is even better. But if I live, I can do more fruitful work for Christ. So I really don't know which is better. I'm torn between two desires: I long to go and be with Christ, which would be far better for me. But for your sakes, it is better that I continue to live.”*

Philippians 1:20-24 NLT

*“And we know [with GREAT CONFIDENCE] that God [who is deeply concerned about us] causes all things to work together [as a plan] for good for those who love God, to those who are called according to His plan and purpose.”* Romans 8:28 AMP

**HEAVENLY FATHER, Thank you for giving me a future and a hope. As I draw closer to you, fill me with greater confidence and trust in you. Help me to more clearly see the story that you have written for my life. And continue to reveal to me a future that is greater than the one I now see. IN CHRIST'S NAME, AMEN**

# UNSHAKEABLE CONFIDENCE

## Part Four: “Confidence for the Future”

### LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

This past Sunday we learned that we can have confidence for our future because our lives are secure in Christ. In this discussion, we'll look at the lives of Paul and Abraham to gain keys to confidence. Read **Philippians 3:12-21** and **Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-16, 39-40** to prepare for your Life Group.

**MY STORY** - *What are some of your dreams for the future? What gives you confidence for the future? What shakes your confidence?*

### DIGGING DEEPER - God's Promises for our Future

Read **Jeremiah 29:11, John 16:33, 2 Cor. 4:17-18, and John 14:1-4.**

God has a good plan for you and He wants you to have unshakeable confidence for the future. *Do any of these promises resonate with you in particular? How do these promises from God's Word encourage you?*

**Paul's Confidence** – Paul was confident about his future, even though he didn't know exactly what was in store. His confidence came from his relationship with Jesus and his ability to trust Him completely. Discuss the following keys to Paul's confidence in your group.

- **He knew He belonged to Jesus (Phil. 3:12; 2 Isaiah 43:1-4).**  
*How do these promises strengthen your confidence for the future?*
- **He left the past behind (Phil. 3:13, 1 Cor. 15:9-10).** *We all struggle with regrets about our past, just as Paul did. What enabled Paul to move ahead and not be held back by regret?*
- **He focused on what was ahead (Phil. 3:14, Timothy 4:6-8).**  
*What elements of the future did Paul focus on? How is your future similar to his?*
- **He relied on Jesus' power (Phil. 3:20-21, 2 Cor. 12:9-10).**  
*How do our weaknesses help us rely upon Jesus' power? Was there a time when God's power was displayed through your weakness?*

**Abraham's Faith** - Hebrews 11:1 tells us that “*faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.*” Through faith, Abraham

maintained confidence in God even when he didn't see the details of his future clearly.

- **When you don't know WHERE** – Read Hebrews 11:8-10. *What helped Abraham obey God's call into the unknown? Have you ever received similar direction? What principles can you apply to your life?*
- **When you don't know HOW** – Read Hebrews 11:11-12, Romans 4:18-21. *Where did Abraham choose to put His focus? Think about your own "impossible" situation. What encouragement can you gain from His faith?*
- **When you don't know WHEN** – Read Hebrews 11:13-16, 39-40. *How can we maintain confidence in God's faithfulness when His promises take longer than we expect? What future are you believing for that extends beyond your earthly life?*

## **PRAYER**

1. **Pray for Each Other** - Spend time praying for each person in your group to stand strong and confident in God's plan for their future.
2. **Prayer of Three** - Pray for three individuals you know who may not be certain of their future. Pray that God would open the door for you to share your testimony with them.

**MOVING FORWARD** - Through this study, you may have sensed God prompting you to take some steps to gain more confidence for your future. If so, trust that God is bringing this up to set you free.

1. If you need to let go of the past, read **Isaiah 43:18-19, Revelation 21:5, and Genesis 50:20**. Ask God to forgive your mistakes, heal your pain, remove regret, and make all things new. As you surrender to Him, He will heal your past and turn it around for good.
2. If you struggle with fear of the future, meditate on **Isaiah 41:10 and Matthew 6:25-34**. Repent of giving into fear, and ask God to fill you with His love, peace, and confidence for the future.
3. If you want to grow in your confidence, read **Hebrews 11** for more stories of people who lived in radical faith, and ask God for opportunities to step out in faith like they did.