



Series: Confident and Doing The Work

(Study of James)

September 5, 2021

Introduction:

Are you a confident person that truly believes in your **life's direction** and God's commitment to bless you (John 10:10)? The challenge we face in this season is a plague of confidence blended with **naive optimism**. It is important to recognize when you are being naively optimistic. In James, they thought that because they had faith their works did not matter.

A confident person faces unexpected challenges and can lose hope, if not careful. Hopelessness overtime can produce a toxic, sick-like, feeling that can shift our view of the world (Proverbs 13:12...Hope deferred make the heart sick). **Balanced confidence** that is rooted in truth and maturity can protect us from falling victim to naive optimism.

Be Confident (Part 1)

The Big Focus: Building Your Confidence

James 1 :2–8 (NKJV): My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. 4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

1. Be Confident When You Lack (Wisdom)

- 5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

2. Be Confident When You Ask

- Ask....v6
- No doubt (Some use this to be extreme. You should doubt if you have not done the work)
- 6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; 8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

3. Be Confident in Your Humble Beginnings

- James 1:9–11 (NKJV): 9 Let the lowly brother glory in his exaltation, 10 but the rich in his humiliation, because as a flower of the field he will pass away. 11 For no sooner has the sun risen with a burning heat than it withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beautiful appearance perishes. So the rich man also will fade away in his pursuits.

4. Be Confident when you do the work

- James 1:12 (NKJV): 12 Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.

Next Time: Doing the Work

Read Ahead: James 1:19-27, NKJV