

Confidence in Him

Newsletter – June/July 2019



We must come away with the realization that prayer is not dictating to God, but a humble and heartfelt expression of our attitude of dependency and need. Because of this, the one who sincerely prays is submissive to God's will, content with Him supplying his necessity according to the dictates of His sovereign pleasure. The result of this, combined with the infusion of God's attitudes and thoughts as we draw near to Him, will work to create us in His image, and then, oneness with Him!

Excerpt from *Confidence in Him* - Newsletter June/July 2019
by Pr. Teddy Santos

1 John 5:14

Confidence - *The feeling or belief that one can rely on something or someone; otherwise, firm trust.*

The word confidence can be applied in different ways; however, in all applications, it affirms the sense of trust one acquires. We all invest effort and time to cater to our self, but how about spiritual? Specifically, your confidence in the Lord? Just as your personal confidence is essential, your spiritual fortitude in God MUST be up to par, for us to overcome challenging situations on our day-to-day

Is it true that God has given us a blank check to ask anything of Him? Some may misunderstand this to be the case, but **1st John 5:14** qualifies what He will grant: "*Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.*" Real prayer is communion with God, and what is necessary for the fellowship are common thoughts between His mind and ours.

What we need is for Him to fill our minds and hearts with His thoughts. Then His desires will become our desires flowing back to Him in the form of prayer. **James 4:3** confirms this: "*You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures.*" If we ask amiss, we are certainly not requesting according to His will, and we will not receive.

But does not Jesus say in **John 16:23**, "*Whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you*"? He most certainly does, but we still do not have a blank check. To ask God for anything in the name of Jesus Christ, it must be in keeping with what He is. To ask in Christ's name is to ask as though Christ Himself were asking. Therefore, we can only ask for what Christ Himself would ask. It is, therefore, necessary to set aside our own will and accept God's. Jesus says in **John 8:29**: "*And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him.*" If we do as Jesus did, we are sure to receive answers as He did. He adds in **John 11:41-42**: "*Father, I thank you that You have heard Me. And I know that You always hear Me.*"

We must come away with the realization that prayer is not dictating to God, but a humble and heartfelt expression of our attitude of dependency and need. Because of this, the one who sincerely prays is submissive to God's will, content with Him supplying his necessity according to the dictates of His sovereign pleasure. The result of this, combined with the infusion of God's attitudes and thoughts as we draw near to Him, will work to create us in His image, and then, oneness with Him!

In Him,
Pr. Teddy F. Santos