

GOD IS OUR CONFIDENCE

DON'T THINK YOU GO OUT ON YOUR OWN

Where does our confidence come from? How can we go out boldly and share Christ with confidence? God not only saves us, God IS our salvation. It makes sense then that God Himself should be the ultimate source of our confidence when we are sharing about His great salvation. We can trust that God is working in us and the people we speak to about Christ.

"Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation" (Isa. 12:2).

How does God work?

God works together as Father, Son and Holy Spirit to perform our salvation, to be our salvation and to bring men and women to salvation. Sharing the gospel works because God works when we share the gospel. Our confidence is in God—**God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.**¹

GOD THE FATHER

HIS LOVE GIVES US CONFIDENCE

The plan to save mankind starts with the Father's great love for us. Therefore, we can be assured that salvation is God's plan, and because of that, He wants to work in and through us for His glory.

*"For God so **loved** the world that he gave his only Son..." (John 3:16).*

- 1 The Father in His love chose to send His only Son to die so that sinful men and women can have eternal life (John 3:16).
- 2 The Father lovingly decided to adopt people as sons and daughters through Jesus Christ, so that He can give them every blessing He has (Eph. 1:3-6).
- 3 The Father draws people to faith in Christ and reveals the truth of Christ to men and women (John 6:44; Matt. 16:17).

¹Thanks to Dr. Fred Sanders, professor of theology in the Torrey Honors Institute at Biola University, for collaborating on this training. For more on how the Trinity is at work in salvation and in all of the Christian life, see his book *The Deep Things of God: How the Trinity Changes Everything*.

GOD THE SON

HIS AUTHORITY GIVES US CONFIDENCE

Jesus has been given all power and authority in Heaven and on earth. Therefore we do not need to be intimidated to speak on His behalf because the most important person has granted us the authority to preach the gospel in His name.

*“All **authority** in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Matt. 28:18-19).*

- 1 Jesus is using His authority and power to draw men and women everywhere to Himself (John 12:32).
- 2 Jesus gives us His authority to preach the gospel (Matt. 28:18-20).
- 3 Jesus has made us ambassadors—so much so that it is like God Himself is speaking through us (2 Cor. 5:20).

GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT

HIS POWER GIVES US CONFIDENCE

It is the power of the Holy Spirit that saves people and helps them grow in Christ. Therefore, we get to partner with His work when we share Christ, and the pressure is not on us to perform.

*“But you will receive **power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8).*

- 1 The Holy Spirit convicts people of the reality and gravity of their sin (John 16:8-11).
- 2 The Holy Spirit testifies to people about Jesus (John 15:26).
- 3 The Holy Spirit empowers believers for bold, courageous & fruitful gospel proclamation (Acts 1:8).
- 4 The Holy Spirit inspired the writers of Scripture in such a way that it is God’s Word and is powerful to accomplish God’s purposes in people’s lives (Heb. 4:12; Isa. 55:11).

Application

Take courage from the fact that each person of the Trinity—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—is actively at work in your salvation and in bringing other people to salvation. Delight in God's presence with you. When you share Christ, you are never alone. God is with you and all around you. God is already working in the hearts and lives of unbelievers. This is why Paul called himself God's coworker. In I Cor. 3:9 it says that we too co-labor with Christ when we speak about Him. Consider this high calling. Reflect on this privilege of having fellowship with God as you join Him in the work He is already doing.

As you share God's truth, be encouraged by God's presence with you!

"THE GRACE OF THE
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(2 COR. 13:14).

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