

Free to Be Confident

Philippians 3:1-9

“Group Check-In:”

- Begin by checking in with everyone and sharing stories of how everyone “Lived Out” true freedom in the past week. Ask if anyone completed the “Live It Out” Mission Challenge, and share:
 - What about the message convicted you this week?
 - What did you do, and what was the outcome? How did it affect you personally; what was the impact on others?

“Current Status” Questions: Get your group talking by asking both questions:

1. Are you a person who generally feels confident? What barriers have you found to confidence in your own life? How do “prison walls” affect your confidence?
2. How does God fit into your confidence? Have you experienced a new kind of confidence through God like Paul did? Or does your confidence reside in other things? Or maybe it is some sort of combination. Discuss with your group.

Paul’s Example: Read Philippians 3:1-9, then choose 3-4 of the following questions to discuss:

3. **Read verses 2-3.** What is Paul trying to teach us here about what real confidence is, and also what it isn’t?
4. **Read verses 4-6.** What are we learning about Paul in these verses and why do you think he chose to share this here?
5. **Consider your life:** Where do you find your confidence? When it comes to serving in the church, do you feel better when you think you are being the “perfect Christian”? And do you feel worse if you feel that you fall short? Do you find your confidence wavers when you are feeling trapped by “prison walls?”
6. Pastor Dave shared 3 reasons that finding confidence can be elusive: Our restlessness, insecurity, and fragileness. Take time to discuss what you learned about these from the sermon and how you may relate to one or all of them.
7. **Read verses 7-8.** Paul experiences a radical shift in his identity here. What happened to him to make this transformation happen?

“LIVE IT OUT”: Encourage your group members to complete the “Live It Out” Mission challenge; then choose 1 additional question to end your group time:

8. **In the week ahead, complete “Live It Out” Mission # 1 (found on The Chapel’s Small Groups page). Next time you meet, check-in and hold each other accountable by sharing your stories!**
9. Paul showed us in his life that he had a transformed confidence. Take time as a group to discuss specific areas in your life that you want to transform. Encourage one another to seek confidence in Christ, and to remain confident, even in the midst of any “prisons” you might be facing.
10. This may have been a really heavy week for some of us. Take some time to pray over anything that may have come up during your group time. Share and pray with one another to seek confidence in Christ.