

THE ABC's
of
Becoming
A Better Christian

***A*SSURANCE**

Last Week We Discussed What It Means To “Abide”.....

Continue To Abide In JESUS CHRIST

Continue To Abide In His Word

Continue To Abide In His Love

If You Are Not Being Productive In Every Area Of Your Life... Check Your Connection

Since You Have Established A Relationship.... Ask For What You Desire



Tonight, We Want To Examine **ASSURANCE**

Key Verses

Hebrews 10:22 (NIV)

22 let us draw near to God with a sincere heart **IN FULL ASSURANCE OF FAITH**,
having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience
and having our bodies washed with pure water.

Hebrews 6:11-12 (NASB)

11 And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence so as to realize **THE FULL ASSURANCE OF HOPE**
until the end, 12 so that you will not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith
and patience inherit the promises.

Hebrews 11:1 (ESV)

1 Now faith is **THE ASSURANCE OF THINGS HOPED FOR**, the conviction of things not seen.

Colossians 2:2-3 (ESV)

2 that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all
THE RICHES OF FULL ASSURANCE OF UNDERSTANDING and the knowledge of God's mystery,
which is Christ, 3 in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

What Does It Mean To Have Assurance?

Assurance is a state of **Certainty** ~ an **Unwavering Confidence**

A **Promise** to cause someone to **feel certain** by **Removing Doubt...**

A Confidence in **Someone's Abilities**

A Declaration Given To **Provide Security** and **Certainty**

ASSURANCE COMES FROM FAITH IN THE PROMISES OF GOD.

Our assurance is anchored in the character of our Faithful God...

Romans 4:18-21 (NASB)

18 In hope against hope he believed, so that he might **become** a father of many nations according to that which had been spoken, "**SO SHALL YOUR DESCENDANTS BE.**" 19 **Without becoming weak in faith** he contemplated his own body, now as good as dead since he was about a hundred years old, and the deadness of Sarah's womb;
20 **yet, with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief** but grew **strong in faith**, giving glory to God, 21 **AND BEING FULLY ASSURED** that **what God had promised**, He was able also to perform.

His Assurance Didn't Keep Him From **Messing Up**, But It Kept Him From **Giving Up**



What Is Needed To Have Full Assurance?

Hebrews 6:9-12 (NASB)

9 But, beloved, we are convinced of *better things concerning you*, and *things that accompany salvation*, though we are speaking in this way. 10 *For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints.* 11 And we desire that each one of you *show the same diligence* so as to realize **THE FULL ASSURANCE OF HOPE UNTIL THE END**, 12 *so that you will not be sluggish*, but imitators of those *who through faith and patience inherit the promises.*

PERSEVERANCE ~ Don't Stop Until You Receive and Become All That God Has Promised You

Philippians 1:6 (NIV)

6 *being confident of this*, that *he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion* until the day of Christ Jesus.

James 1:12 (NIV)

12 *Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial*, because *when he has stood the test*, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.

Matthew 24:11-13 (NIV)

11 and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. 12 Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, 13 but *he who stands firm to the end* will be saved.

Galatians 6:9 (NKJV)

9 And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap *if we do not lose heart.*

Patience Is Necessary To Have Full Assurance

What Is Needed To Have Full Assurance?

Patience Is Necessary To Have Full Assurance

Matthew 15:22-28 (ESV)

22 And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, “*Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon.*”

23 **BUT HE DID NOT ANSWER HER A WORD.** And his disciples came and begged him, saying, “**SEND HER AWAY, FOR SHE IS CRYING OUT AFTER US.**”

24 He answered, “**I WAS SENT ONLY TO THE LOST SHEEP OF THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL.**”

25 **BUT** she came and knelt before him, saying, “**LORD, HELP ME.**”

26 And he answered, “**IT IS NOT RIGHT TO TAKE THE CHILDREN’S BREAD AND THROW IT TO THE DOGS.**”

27 She said, “*Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.*”

28 Then Jesus answered her, “*O woman, great is your faith!* Be it done for you as you desire.”

AND HER DAUGHTER WAS HEALED INSTANTLY.

SHE HAD FULL ASSURANCE OF HOPE UNTIL THE END



What Is Needed To Have Full Assurance?

Hebrews 10:19-23 (NKJV)

19 Therefore, brethren, **having boldness** to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus,
20 by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh,
21 and having a High Priest over the house of God,
22 **let us draw near with a true heart** **IN FULL ASSURANCE OF FAITH**,
having our hearts sprinkled **from an evil conscience** and our bodies washed with pure water.
23 Let us *hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering*, for **HE WHO PROMISED IS FAITHFUL**.

Boldness To Approach A Holy God ~ The Audacity To Ask

Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV)

16 Let us therefore **come boldly** to the **throne of grace**,
that we may **obtain mercy** and **find grace** to help **in time of need**.

What Keeps Us From Having This Boldness To Ask and The Assurance That We Will Receive

ANSWER: **OUR GUILT**

1 John 1:9 (NLT)

9 But *if we confess our sins to him*, *he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins* and to *cleanse us from all wickedness*.

Psalms 51:10-12 (NKJV)

10 Create in me *a clean heart*, O God, And renew *a steadfast spirit* within me.
11 Do not cast me away from *Your presence*, And do not take *Your Holy Spirit* from me.
12 Restore to me the *joy of Your salvation*, And uphold me by *Your generous Spirit*.

The Blood Gives You The Boldness To Ask

What Is Needed To Have Full Assurance?

Hebrews 10:22-23 (NKJV)

22 *let us draw near with a true heart* **IN FULL ASSURANCE OF FAITH**,
having our *hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience* and our bodies washed with pure water.
23 Let us *hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering*, for **HE WHO PROMISED IS FAITHFUL**.

DON'T ALLOW SIN TO CAUSE SEPERATION

Isaiah 59:2-3 (ESV)

2 *but your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God*, and your sins have hidden his face from you
SO THAT HE DOES NOT HEAR. 3 For your hands are defiled with blood and your fingers with iniquity;
your lips have spoken lies; your tongue mutters wickedness.

Psalms 66:18 (ESV)

18 If I had *cherished iniquity in my heart*, the **Lord would not have listened**.

James 4:8 (NIV)

8 *Come near to God and he will come near to you*. **Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded**.

Psalms 24:3-4 (NLT)

3 Who may climb the mountain of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place?
4 **ONLY THOSE WHOSE HANDS AND HEARTS ARE PURE**, who do not worship idols and never tell lies.

James 4:17 (ESV)

17 So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.



What Is Needed To Have Full Assurance?

Colossians 2:1-3 (ESV)

1 For I want you to know how great a struggle I have for you and for those at Laodicea and for all who have not seen me face to face, 2 that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, **TO REACH ALL THE RICHES OF FULL ASSURANCE OF UNDERSTANDING** and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ, 3 in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Knowledge and Understanding Gives Us An Assurance That Can't Be Shaken

What You Know Gives You Confidence/Assurance...

Who You Know Gives You Confidence/Assurance...

Proverbs 4:3-7 (NASB)

3 When I was a son to my father, Tender and the only son in the sight of my mother,
4 Then he taught me and said to me, "Let your heart hold fast my words; Keep my commandments and live;
5 **ACQUIRE WISDOM! ACQUIRE UNDERSTANDING!** Do not forget nor turn away from the words of my mouth.
6 "Do not forsake her, and she will guard you; Love her, and she will watch over you.
7 "The beginning of wisdom is: Acquire wisdom; And with all your acquiring, **get understanding.**

Jeremiah 3:15 (NASB)

15 "Then I will give you shepherds after My own heart, who will feed you on **KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING.**



What Is Needed To Have Full Assurance?

Hebrews 11:1 (ESV)

1 Now faith is **THE ASSURANCE** of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

We Walk **By Faith** In The Assurance That God Will Keep His Promises

Our heart and mind **believe something**, and we have assurance and conviction that **it is true**.

Faith is trusting and possessing all that God is and says...

Faith is believing and possessing all that God is and says...

Faith is having confidence in and possessing all that God is and says...

Faith is hoping for something and possessing it because God is (exists) and has promised it...

Hebrews 11:6 (NIV)

6 And **without faith** it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him **must believe that he exists** and that **he rewards those who earnestly seek him**.

I Have Faith.... I Have The Assurance That God Will Supply All My Needs

I Have Faith.... I Have The Assurance That God Will Work All Things Together

I Have Faith... I Have The Assurance That God Will Restore Unto Me Everything The Enemy Has Taken...



What Is Needed To Have Full Assurance?

Hebrews 11:1 (ESV)

*1 Now faith is **THE ASSURANCE** of things hoped for,*

I Have The Assurance Of My Salvation

1 John 5:13-15 (NIV)

*13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God **so that you may know that you have eternal life.***

*14 **This is the confidence we have in approaching God:** that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.*

*15 And if **we know** that he hears us--whatever we ask--**we know** that we have what we asked of him.*

I Have The Assurance That God Will Provide An Exit

1 Corinthians 10:13 (ESV)

*13 No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. **God is faithful,** and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation **he will also provide the way of escape,** that you may be able to endure it.*

I Have The Assurance Of Forgiveness

1 John 1:9 (ESV)

*9 If we confess our sins, **he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins** and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*



In Conclusion

I Have Full Assurance Of Hope

I Have Full Assurance Of Faith

I Have Full Assurance Of Understanding

