



TAKE UP YOUR CROSS

Conquering Self-Confidence

John 18:15-18,25-27; John 13:36-38; Luke 22:31-34

Self-confidence: a feeling of trust in one's abilities, qualities, and judgment

JOHN 13:36-38

Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, where are You going?" Jesus answered, "Where I go, you cannot follow Me now; but you will follow later." Peter said to Him, "Lord, why can I not follow You right now? I will lay down my life for You." Jesus answered, "Will you lay down your life for Me? Truly, truly, I say to you, a rooster will not crow until you deny Me three times."

1. The Characteristics of Self-Confidence

1 CORINTHIANS 10:12

Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall.

4 Dangerous characteristics of self-confidence:

1. Arrogant self-assurance
2. Failure to listen to others
3. Impulsive reactions
4. Following at a distance

2. The Failures of Self-Confidence (John 18:15-18,25-27)

3. The Gracious Invitation of God to a Life of Faith

Luke 22:31-34

Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has demanded permission to sift you like wheat; but I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned again, strengthen your brothers." But he said to Him, "Lord, with Yo I am read to go both to prison and to death!" And He said, "I say to you, Peter, the rooster will not crow today until you have denied three times that you know Me."

How are we to respond to the exposure of our self-confidence?

1. Acknowledge the sovereignty of God
2. Admit your weakness and repent

2 CORINTHIANS 12:9-10

And He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness," Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

3. Turn again in faith to Jesus

Let the exposure of your weakness drive you away from self-confidence to faith in Christ and confidence in Him and His work in and through you.



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