



## Confidence in God

Being confident in this very thing .... Philippians 1:6

# 5 Steps to Experience More Confidence in God



For many years I struggled with the belief that I could accidentally wander away from God. And I know I am not alone. As I have taught and ministered during the last 30 years, I have seen again and again how faithful Christians fear that they could casually lose their relationship with God. Then one day after much prayer and Bible study, I realized we do not have to fear losing that relationship. The Apostle Paul shared in the sixth chapter of Romans how we can live life through the Spirit, walking with confidence in God. How do we do this? By knowing, reckoning, yielding, obeying, and serving. Below I share Paul's teaching in Romans 6 and what I learned while studying it.

# 1

# KNOWING

If we are to experience victory over sin, we must start with the knowledge of the gospel: Jesus died, was buried, and was raised from the dead. Therefore, we have victory over sin.



## Romans 6:1-6

What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? 2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? 3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: 6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

Through baptism we can rise up and walk in newness of life with confidence in God because we have taken on the identity of Christ.

It is not that we become sinless. We continue to struggle against sin. However, through baptism we are delivered and are no longer under the dominion of sin. We can live such that sin is the exception in our lives instead of the rule!

We can walk with confidence in God when we know the truth of the gospel and have applied it to our lives through baptism.

# 2

## RECKONING

### Romans 6:11

Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.



What does it mean to reckon? It means to consider or have the opinion that something is as stated.

We must do more than just know the gospel, we must intentionally set our minds to consider the fact that we died to sin when we were baptized and we have overcome the power of sin through Jesus Christ. The battle of the enemy is in the mind. To defeat him, we must set our minds on the things of God. Committing God's word to memory is a great way to do that.

# 3

## YIELDING

### Romans 6:13

Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

We must yield our entire beings to God. This means we submit our thoughts, attitudes, and behavior to God. It is not good enough just to do the right things. We must also think the right things!



# 4

# OBEYING

## Romans 6:14, 17

Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.



For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. ... But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.

Once we obey the word of God, not legalistically striving to comply with the letter of every command in scripture, but loving the word and striving to live it from the heart, then sin will have no power over us.

# 5

# SERVING

## Romans 6:19-22

I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness. For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness. What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things is death. But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

Because we have been freed from the power of sin in our lives, we will want to serve God with the same passion and zeal we used to serve sin.







# CONCLUSION

How do we walk with confidence in God? By knowing the gospel and that we are no longer under the dominion or the control of sin; by reckoning that the Gospel applies to us by replacing the thoughts of the sinful life with the thoughts consistent with the Word of God; by yielding to God completely in our thoughts, attitudes, and behavior; by obeying His words; and by serving Him with great passion, at least as equal as the passion we served sin with.

