

Boldness & Confidence

Ephesians 3:17-19

OK, here we go.

Tonight, we are talking about personal ministry. Why? Because a group of you will be feeding the flock over the next 9 weeks. But first, let's talk about me!

1 Corinthians 2:1-5 ***And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. ² For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. ³ I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. ⁴ And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.***

1) The message of the _____ is _____ to our faith!

Often, I say --- I am not that great of a preacher. I'll say I am a better teacher. But verses 4-5 are central to who I am.

1 Corinthians 2:4-5 ***⁴ And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.***

2) I come in the demonstration of the _____ and _____!

My Personal Ministry ----- Pastor/Teacher:
1st Primarily Teaching
2nd Counseling - Pastoral Care
3rd Equipping
4th Providing Opportunity

Ephesians 3:6-13 ***⁶ that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel, ⁷ of which I became a minister according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His power. ⁸ To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹ and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ; ¹⁰ to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places, ¹¹ according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹² in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him. ¹³ Therefore I ask that you do not lose heart at my tribulations for you, which is your glory.***

3) We can have _____ and _____.

In fact --- we need it. When I speak prophetically over someone, when I pray for healing, I am BOLD & CONFIDENT.

Now for you.

II Corinthians 5:6-7 ⁶ So we are **always** confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord. ⁷ For we walk by faith, not by sight.

4) We are _____ confident!

Well, sounds good --- but are we always confident? I think it depends on if we are *walking by sight or by faith*.

II Corinthians 4:1 & 4:7-15 ¹Therefore, since **we have this ministry**, as we have received mercy, we do not **lose heart**. ⁷ But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. ⁸ We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹ persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed— ¹⁰ always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. ¹¹ For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. ¹² So then death is working in us, but life in you. ¹³ And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak, ¹⁴ knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you. ¹⁵ For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

Our next 18 speakers over 9 weeks ----- they now have this ministry!

5) Since we have this _____ we do not _____.

Rather, it is the opposite! Yes, they are weak. They do not know everything. They may not be your favorite speaker, but you know what.....

6) They are doing _____!

II Corinthians 4:6 ⁶ For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

The light is shining out of them!

So really this becomes about the rest of us! If you cannot stand the other members speaking --- you are in a bad place!

Remember, it is not the member --- it's the MESSAGE. So, listen closely to what they have to say. Encourage them. Love them.

II Corinthians 4:15

There it is.

7) The _____ is spread through many.

So, to you Speakers.....

Hebrews 4:14-16 ¹⁴ *Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.* ¹⁵ *For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.* 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.*

8) Let's come _____ before the throne of _____!



SPEAKERS: You are now officially commissioned to speak.



MEMBERS: You are now instructed to have ears to hear.

And, by the way, personal ministry is done all day every day. So, whether you are speaking or not, stay in tune with the Holy Spirit.

