



Jesus Leads: Confidence | March 11, 2020

Discussion Guide

The Scoop

Confidence often gets a bad reputation. However, it's not confidence that's the problem, it's where it comes from.

Key Verses

John 5:41-44 (NLV)

"I do not accept glory from human beings, but I know you. I know that you do not have the love of God in your hearts. I have come in my Father's name, and you do not accept me; but if someone else comes in his own name, you will accept him. How can you believe since you accept glory from one another but do not seek the glory that comes from the only God?"

Discussion

Confidence is probably the most misunderstood leadership trait. We are used to seeing confidence as something that comes with arrogance, but confidence, especially when combined with humility, is the necessary trait to overcome obstacles, stand in the face of adversity, and encourage others to go where no one has been before.

1. Do you have any examples of confident people that you look up to or wish you could be more like?
2. What are some other traits of these people beyond confidence? What are ways that exude confidence?

When confidence comes from the perspective of self-gain alone, it typically looks like arrogance. FDR says, "Courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the assessment that something else is more important than that fear." Good leaders find ways to connect their confidence to something bigger than themselves. They are able to look beyond themselves to speak on behalf of a bigger purpose, other people, and with a connection to their faith.

3. Can you think of any examples of world changers who gathered confidence as a result of something bigger than themselves or on behalf of other people? Are any of these examples of faith?
4. What about you? Are there any places in your life you wish you could be more confident? If so, is there a necessary perspective shift to something bigger, other people's benefit, and faith?

In John 5:41-44 Jesus tells us how he finds his strength through God. He essentially says, "my confidence comes from elsewhere. I am not working to show off or gain popularity among humans. I am who I am because I am attached to something bigger than myself." Being guided by God's desires, Jesus shows us how he is able to show confident leadership without the label of arrogance.

5. In what ways do you think God is asking you to lead confidently? Where is he asking you to be bold and confident?
6. So far we have only asked who in your life is an example of confidence, but now let's ask...who in your life needs you to display confident leadership?

What's Next?

Looking ahead, remember that leadership is a multi-faceted tool to influence and positively impact the lives of others. By attaching yourself to some motivation larger than yourself, you find that you are able to speak confidently in your leadership. This week look for opportunities in your life where you lead for a purpose, person, or thing larger than yourself and embrace your own ability to lead. What is one thing you can do this week to be bold and confident?

You can find a template of our 5-minute faith journal at faithinfive.com to further engage your goals and connect them with your faith.