

The Secret to Overcoming Insecurity Once and For All

In today's society, insecurity is an epidemic. Too many people—including many Christians—walk around timid, afraid, lacking confidence and feeling bad about themselves.

But when Jesus died on the cross for us, something happened that I like to call “the divine exchange.” He took away our sins and everything we are not, and then He made us perfect in Him.

God wants you to be confident, bold, fearless and free. He wants you to be healthy and whole—fully able to pursue your destiny. And He desires for you to feel good about yourself and your relationship with Him.

There's No Comparison

Insecure people tend to compare themselves with other people and feel a need to “keep up” with them.

For years I tried to be like everybody else. I tried to be steady and easy-going like my husband, Dave. Then I tried to be like my pastor's wife, who was super sweet and sensitive. But the truth is that we are only anointed to be ourselves!

For example, it's amazing how excited you can be about your prayer life until you happen to compare notes with someone else who gets up before daylight each morning and prays for four hours.

Now, if you don't know who you are in Christ, you suddenly feel like your prayer life is nothing. Then, just to keep up, you frustrate yourself trying to do what they are doing.

How do I know? Because this happened to me years ago. As a result, I got myself a clock, locked myself in a room and

declared to everyone, “I’m going to pray for four hours a day! I’m not coming out of here, and you can’t come in!” Everything went well until I fell asleep five minutes after I began.

God made you an original ... and He has a unique plan just for you. Comparing yourself to others just leads to frustration. But having the confidence and freedom to be yourself leads to peace and joy.

What Are You Looking At?

Too many times we look at ourselves when we should be looking at God. We focus on all of our own weaknesses, and before we know it, we are timid, fearful, and convinced that everything is too hard to accomplish.

If this is you, then Philippians 3:3 can change your life. It says to “... put no trust [on what we are] in the flesh ... “

Some people look at their weaknesses and think, I could never do something great for God. Then there are others who look at their own strengths and think, I don’t need help ... I can do this on my own.

Regardless of what we can or cannot do, God wants all of our confidence to be in Him. Because the truth is, apart from Him, we can do nothing!

David was one person who knew who he was in Christ. The entire army of Israel was too frightened to fight the giant, Goliath. But David wasn’t. Why? Because he was looking at God and not himself. He knew that his God could do anything. As a result, he walked straight out to the battlefield and killed Goliath with a stone and a slingshot.

You, too, can have this “David” kind of confidence. You can become a giant-killer when you learn who you are Christ.

Make a Bold Move

God wants you to feel good about yourself. He wants you to be bold ... to be fearless ... to believe Him for big things.

Ephesians 3:20 says that God is able to "... do exceedingly abundantly beyond all that we [dare] ask or imagine [infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, hopes, or dreams]."

I believe God is just waiting for some of you to boldly step out and ask Him for things that go beyond your mind or what you think is possible. Our insecurities will make us feel like we're not worthy to even ask. But remember, in God's economy, you don't get what you deserve—you get what Jesus deserves!

Wherever you are in your journey with the Lord, He wants you to know that you are right with Him. You may not be perfect, but God sees you as perfect because of His Son. And because of this, you can go forward with boldness, joy and the divine confidence you need to fulfill your destiny.

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored more than 100 books, including *Battlefield of the Mind* and *Get Your Hopes Up!* (Hachette). She hosts the "Enjoying Everyday Life" radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit .