

Believing in Ourselves

Many people report that they do not usually feel confident. But exciting things can happen when we actually believe in ourselves.

Here is a case in point, a man who believed in his own ability even as a boy, and the confidence that helped shape his adult life.

At the turn of the 20th century, a young boy quit school to help with the family expenses.



When he was 15, he became interested in automobiles and worked in a garage. He subscribed to a correspondence home study course on automobiles and, after a long day in the garage, studied at the kitchen table by lamplight.

When he felt ready, he walked into the Oscar Lear Automobile Company of Columbus, Ohio. When Mr. Frayer, one of the partners, noticed him, he asked, “Well, what do you want?”

“I just thought I’d tell you I’m coming to work here tomorrow morning,” the boy replied.

“Oh! Who hired you?” Frayer inquired.

“Nobody yet, but I’ll be on the job in the morning,” the boy declared. “If I’m not worth anything, you can fire me.” (Try that in today’s market!)



Early the next morning, the young man returned to the plant. Noticing the floor was thick with metal shavings and accumulated dirt and grease, the boy got a broom and shovel and set to work cleaning the place.

Because of his self-confidence and work ethic, Eddie Rickenbacker’s future was almost predictable. He went on to excel in many fields, including automobile racing, piloting World War I planes and founding what was to become one of America’s largest airline companies, Eastern Airlines.

There is no magic bullet to instantly become a self-confident person. But it begins with a couple of the most important relationships in your life – with God and with yourself.

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People who become more confident work on those relationships. Through worship and Bible study, they grow closer to our Lord, and they habitually encourage themselves.

Without confidence, you are not likely to move far in the direction of your dreams. But when you learn to actively encourage yourself, almost anything will be possible.

The Bible offers advice on this subject:

- *For You formed my inward parts; You knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are Your works; my soul knows it very well (Psalm 139:13-14 ESV).*
- *Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go (Joshua 1:9 ESV).*

– Beecher Hunter