

The Key to Confident Living

Some people go through life full of confidence and vigor no matter what happens to them. When disaster strikes, they survive. When obstacles are placed in their path, they persevere.

In the tumult of life's arena, they are knocked down but never out, and they always have the internal fortitude to get up and get going again.

Judging by the culture around us, we are a nation of people sadly lacking in confidence and self-esteem. In the midst of all our material advantages, we hunger and thirst for confidence, and we don't know where to find it, so we give millions of dollars to people who will sell us a technique for getting it.



A vivid example of the true key to confident living can be found in an episode from the life of Martin Luther King Jr., written in his book *Strength to Love*. Dr. King told about a certain night in 1956, which came at a very trying time. He had been arrested that week and received several death threats. His nerves were shot, and he was filled with fear as he went to speak at a church rally.

When the program was over, an old woman known as Mother Pollard came up to him. "Something is wrong with you," she said. "You didn't talk strong tonight."

Dr. King tried to disguise his feelings by saying, "No, no, Mother Pollard. I'm feeling just fine."

But she persisted: "No, I can tell, something isn't right. Is it that we ain't doing things to please you? Is it that the white folks is bothering you?"

Before he could answer, Mother Pollard went on, "I told you that we are with you to the end." Then her face became radiant, and her voice became certain: "And even if we ain't with you, God's gonna take care of you!"

Mother Pollard had it right. If you want the key to confident living, begin right there, knowing where to look for your confidence. It lies not in ourselves or in the stars, but in God. It lies in knowing that at the end of the day, "God's gonna take care of you."

God will take care of you. And when you know that from the very core of your being, then you have an utter confidence about life which nothing or no one can take away.

(more)

The spirit of this age wants to say, "O Jesus, come and walk with me." It's better to say, "O Master, let me walk with Thee."

It is wise to look first to Him, find your strength in Him, and then to say with the Apostle Paul, "It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me." When this is the way you live, you can never lose heart, and truly, you can never die. Therein lies confidence.

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain (Philippians 1:21 NIV).

– Beecher Hunter