

There is a Thin Line Between Confidence & Conceitedness

There is a thin line between confidence and conceitedness. So, when does confidence turn into conceitedness? It's not that confidence turns into conceitedness; it's that conceitedness has always been there, and we need to turn it into confidence.

We need to stop and carefully examine our own hearts, taking an honest look at our own motivations.

A conceited mindset makes us believe we are better than we really are, but a confident mindset relies on God. Conceitedness involves faith in your own abilities; confidence involves faith in God.

Psalm 75:4-5 – “I warned the proud, ‘Stop your boasting!’ I told the wicked, ‘Don’t raise your fists! Don’t raise your fists in defiance at the heavens or speak with such arrogance.’”

2 Peter 2:16-20 – “They brag about themselves with empty, foolish boasting. With an appeal to twisted sexual desires, they lure back into sin those who have barely escaped from a lifestyle of deception. They promise freedom, but they themselves are slaves of sin and corruption. For you are a slave to whatever controls you. And when people escape from the wickedness of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ then get tangled up and enslaved by sin again, they are worse off than before.”

You were freed from sin the moment you accepted Christ.

Conceitedness goes along with sin. It makes you think that you are better at something than you really are.

Conceitedness is what sin will use to try to trap you in your old lifestyle. Then you will be worse off than before because it will be twice as hard to leave.

Romans 1:30-32 – “They are backstabbers, haters of God, insolent, proud, and boastful. They invent new ways of sinning, and they disobey their parents. They refuse to understand, break their promises, are heartless, and have no mercy. They know God’s justice requires that those who do these things deserve to die, yet they do them anyway. Worse yet, they encourage others to do them, too.”

These people know what God’s justice requires, but they think they got away with their sins and try to convince other people to follow them. These people are so conceited that they think they can get away with anything.

Psalms 32:5 – “Finally, I confessed all my sins to you and stopped trying to hide my guilt. I said to myself, ‘I will confess my rebellion to the Lord.’ And you forgave me! All my guilt is gone.”

When we are conceited, we think we have to run and hide. When we have confidence in who we are and who we belong to, we know that God will forgive us, but we must first go before the Lord and confess our wrongdoings.

1 Corinthians 13:1-3 – “If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn’t love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God’s secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but I didn’t love others, I would be nothing. If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; but if I didn’t love others, I would have gained nothing.”

As Christians, we often go through all the right motions but refuse to love the people around us.

Conceitedness can even infiltrate the body of Christ. Too often, we think that our way is the right way, or that our church is the only church that has the right answers.

We have to make sure we are not conceited in our own abilities, but that we are confident in the God whom we serve. It isn’t your pastor’s job, or anyone else’s job, to answer this question; you have to check yourself and your own heart.