

FLOURISH

Ministry to Women Newsletter

The Salvation Army | USA Western Territory | Women's Ministry



CONFIDENT FAITH

BY LT. COLONEL JEANNE BAKER

Welcome to a new program year for our Ministry to Women. This year we will be looking at "Confident Faith." The theme for the year ties into the National Women's Ministries theme and resources with the same title.

Confident Faith: What does it mean? Where does it come from? How do we get Confident Faith? and how do we maintain a life of Confident Faith? These are some of the questions we ask ourselves. We will learn from Biblical Heroes of the Faith as we journey together.

"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."

Hebrews 11:1 NIV

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Confident Faith – Confident in God’s Character

WRITTEN BY COLONEL GENEVERA VINCENT
HEBREWS 11: 1-3, GENESIS 1-2

We live in a world that is changing rapidly. We constantly hear of climate change and the need to reverse some of our behaviors for the betterment and sustainability of the earth. Technology is changing at rapid rates to the point where it is hard to keep up. People’s value systems are changing, leaving us vulnerable to the whims of culture. All the changes are sometimes mind numbing.

There is one constant amidst all the changes however and that is God. Despite the rapid change around us, God is self-existent, he is eternal, infinite and immutable. We can be confident in God as our Creator—confident in his character—that he has not and will not change, ever!

The second doctrine of The Salvation Army states, “We believe that there is only one God, who is infinitely perfect, the Creator, Preserver and Governor of all things, and who is the only proper object of religious worship.”

We have heard a lot about the Big Bang theory. Some believe that the world was not really created but came into existence through an explosion. I have always maintained that while I don’t know just how God created the earth, God was behind it all, He spoke, and the world was created! He set the stars in place and aligned everything to work as it should. Creation was not a random act! God is not the author of confusion and chaos. His creation was a well-orchestrated event that accomplished his purpose and set in motion a grand story for all of us to know and embrace.

Hebrews 11 begins a whole chapter of the character of God and who he truly is in his faithfulness, mercy and deliverance. It was at his command that the earth came into existence, and the crown of his creation was man himself—created in the very image of the Creator God.

An old song by Stuart Hamblen from many years ago still speaks to me. In “How Big is God,” he wrote:

Though men may strive to go beyond the reach of space,
To crawl beyond the distant glimmering stars,
This world’s a room so small within my Master’s house,
The open skies but a portion of his yard.

How big is God? How big and wide his vast domain?
To try to tell, these lips can only start.
He’s big enough to rule this mighty universe,
Yet small enough to live within my heart.

That is the beauty of God our Creator. He not only creates, preserves and governs all things, he has chosen to be in relationship with those created in his image. What shakes your confidence? Whatever your answer to that question, we have the assurance that the God who created this world and created us is one in whom we can place our complete confidence. While things around us are constantly changing—God does not. We are reminded in the beautiful song...

Your promise still stands,
Great is your faithfulness, faithfulness
I’m still in your hands,
This is my confidence,
You’ve never failed me yet

We can possess a confident faith because of the confidence we have in the character of God!



There is power in the Word of God.

FLOURISHING IN THE WORD

For the month of October read through these scriptures about Having Confident Faith because of God's Character. There are many other scriptures that speak to God's Character. What would you add?

Oct. 1	1 Cor 10:13	Oct. 16	Deuteronomy 6:4-5
Oct. 2	1 John 1:5	Oct. 17	1 John 4:7-9
Oct. 3	2 Peter 3:9	Oct. 18	Psalms 33:11-13
Oct. 4	Genesis 1:1	Oct. 19	Deuteronomy 20:1-4
Oct. 5	Hebrews 11	Oct. 20	Job 12:7-10
Oct. 6	James 1:17	Oct. 21	Deuteronomy 4:31
Oct. 7	John 3:16	Oct. 22	Deuteronomy 10:14-18
Oct. 8	Matthew 6:26	Oct. 23	Exodus 3:13-15
Oct. 9	Psalms 18:30	Oct. 24	Titus 3:4-6
Oct. 10	Psalms 50:6	Oct. 25	1 John 4:7-10
Oct. 11	Psalms 116:5	Oct. 26	John 1:14
Oct. 12	Revelations 21:3	Oct. 27	Deuteronomy 7:9
Oct. 13	Psalms 84:11-12	Oct. 28	Isaiah 40:28-29
Oct. 14	Joshua 1:8-9	Oct. 29	Malachi 3:6a
Oct. 15	Micah 7:18-19	Oct. 30	Zephaniah 3:17
		Oct. 31	Psalms 86:15

MUSIC OF THE HEART

Confident Faith requires us to learn about God, who He is and how much He loves us. Listen to the words of these songs and let them speak to your heart.

Waymaker:

https://youtu.be/29lxnsqOkmQ?si=mf171t5g4P2y_lRe&t=2

Good Good Father:

<https://youtu.be/-ak0OoFBw3c?si=gvlxujxTNv7YQ5hP&t=2>

Goodness of God:

<https://youtu.be/9sE5kEnitqE?si=zFnXAEGGdYT16QV2&t=4>

"NOTHING HAPPENS...until the pain of remaining the same OUTWEIGHTS the pain of CHANGE."
~ Arthur Burt

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. As a survivor and as one supporting a sister through her breast cancer journey it seemed important to remember and emphasize this important opportunity to bring education and awareness to the women (and men) in our ministries.

According to the National Cancer Institute, approximately 316,950 women in the United States are estimated to be diagnosed with breast cancer in 2025.

What can you do?

1. Participate in breast cancer fundraising run/walk races and challenges.
2. Celebrate milestones with a breast cancer fundraiser.
3. Host a breast cancer awareness event for those in your ministry and community.
4. Host a pink event: Pink Party, having pink everything! Give every participant a pink ribbon.
5. Pink Friday: All staff wear something pink - the one with the most or best wins a prize or a donation given to a local breast cancer organization.
6. Make breast cancer care kits and donate to a local organization, or someone you know who is currently in the battle.

Breast Cancer Resources:

Breast Cancer.org
<https://www.breastcancer.org>

American Cancer Society
<https://www.cancer.org>

American Association for Cancer Research:
<https://www.aacr.org>

Susan G. Komen: <https://komen.org>

National Breast Cancer Foundation Inc. has free resources on their website:
<https://nationalbreastcancer.org>

BCRF - Breast Cancer Research Foundation.
<https://bcrf.org>

