

# Assurance

## Part # 3:

### How to be certain...of God's Provision

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Each of us devotes a significant portion of our energy **ensuring** our needs are met.

Some of us choose to be self-sufficient toward our needs, while some rely on **others**.

Many struggle with what role if any, does God play in providing our most **crucial** needs?

## *Central Point...*

### Great Expectations

Much of what we **receive** from God is related to what we **expect** from God.

**Mark 11:22-24** <sup>22</sup> "Have faith in God," Jesus answered. <sup>23</sup> "I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him. <sup>24</sup> Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

We can be certain in our expectations of God when we:

- **embrace** His Will.

**1 John 5:14-15** <sup>14</sup> This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. <sup>15</sup> And if we know that he hears us--whatever we ask--we know that we have what we asked of him.

- **trust** in His Plan.

**John 14:12-14** The person who trusts me will not only do what I'm doing but even greater things, because I, on my way to the Father, am giving you the same work to do that I've been doing. You can count on it. From now on, whatever you request along the lines of who I am and what I am doing, I'll do it. That's how the Father will be seen for who he is in the Son. I mean it. Whatever you request in this way, I'll do.

- **desire** our met needs to serve His Purpose.

**Matthew 6:7-13** "The world is full of so-called prayer warriors who are prayer-ignorant. They're full of formulas and programs and advice, peddling techniques for getting what you want from God. Don't fall for that nonsense. This is your Father you are dealing with, and he knows better than you what you need. With a God like this loving you, you can pray very simply. Like this:

Our Father in heaven,  
Reveal who you are.  
Set the world right;  
Do what's best— as above, so below.  
Keep us alive with three square meals.  
Keep us forgiven with you and forgiving others.  
Keep us safe from ourselves and the Devil.  
You're in charge!  
You can do anything you want!  
You're ablaze in beauty!  
Yes. Yes. Yes.

## *Focal Point...*

### Certain Confidence

If we can be certain that our basic needs are not a major concern, we can confidently...

...face our **fears**.

**Psalm 27:1-3** The LORD is my light and my salvation—  
so why should I be afraid?

The LORD is my fortress, protecting me from danger,  
so why should I tremble?

<sup>2</sup> When evil people come to devour me,  
when my enemies and foes attack me,  
they will stumble and fall.

<sup>3</sup> Though a mighty army surrounds me,  
my heart will not be afraid.

Even if I am attacked,  
I will remain confident.

...face our **shortcomings**.

**2 Corinthians 3:4-5** We are sure about all this. Christ makes us sure in the very presence of God. <sup>5</sup> We don't have the right to claim that we have done anything on our own. God gives us what it takes to do all that we do.

...face our **future**.

**Hebrews 10:35:39** *So do not throw away this confident trust in the Lord. Remember the great reward it brings you!* <sup>36</sup> *Patient endurance is what you need now, so that you will continue to do God's will. Then you will receive all that he has promised.*

<sup>37</sup> *“For in just a little while,  
the Coming One will come and not delay.*

<sup>38</sup> *And my righteous ones will live by faith.  
But I will take no pleasure in anyone who turns away.”*

<sup>39</sup> *But we are not like those who turn away from God to their own destruction. We are the faithful ones, whose souls will be saved.*

## *Turning Point . . .*

**While God is faithful to provide for our basic needs, He has already provided our most crucial need:**

**Titus 3:4-7** *It wasn't so long ago that we ourselves were stupid and stubborn, dupes of sin, ordered every which way by our glands, going around with a chip on our shoulder, hated and hating back. But when God, our kind and loving Savior God, stepped in, he saved us from all that. It was all his doing; we had nothing to do with it. He gave us a good bath, and we came out of it new people, washed inside and out by the Holy Spirit. Our Savior Jesus poured out new life so generously. God's gift has restored our relationship with him and given us back our lives. And there's more life to come—an eternity of life! You can count on this.*

**Our challenge: To trust that God truly knows and provides what we need.**

**Believers – simply ask, “Father God – Do I trust your plan and your purpose to truly provide what I need in my life?”**

**Seekers – true confidence comes when we embrace the One who provides it. To invite Christ into your heart, simply pray,**

*Father God, I come before you today, asking you to save me.  
I invite your Son Jesus Christ into my heart to be my Lord and Savior.  
Please forgive me of sin in my life; cleanse my heart and my spirit.  
Father, I want to be confident that my needs will be met fully and completely. And with your help, guide me toward being the person you created me to be.  
In Jesus' name -- Amen*