

PRESS PLAY (JUNE)

PRESCHOOL MONTHLY DEVOTIONAL

Ephesians 1:1-23, 2:1-22

Where does your confidence come from?

Maybe you are like me and know the correct answer is trusting Christ, but much to your chagrin, it is very often in other things that should not fill you up the way Jesus does. Confidence often feels like one of the most elusive qualities to live with. As soon as you find it, life has a way of testing your confidence and where it is coming from to prove if it is being found in any of the wrong places. Before too long, you will soon crash and burn. Now you get to teach kids about how to have confidence, kind of a heavy weight, huh? But also, pretty cool that God has chosen you to help teach them about something so important, and to help them understand how to root it in Christ!

Before you teach these kids about confidence in God through trust, take some time to reflect and hear from God about it for yourself. Take an inventory in your head, on paper, however you need, of the things that compete with Jesus to be where you find your confidence and identity that you should not. For me it is so often my job, my relationships, my creative abilities, often even my quirks. All good things to a certain extent, but not healthy when I let them define me and give me more confidence than my awesome God.

After doing this, pray over this list, ask God to help step in when you start to give these things more power than you should. Ask him to help you be more aware and vigilant of when you are putting your confidence in anything but him.

Now read through Ephesians 1-2, and read it again if you have already read it. Take inventory of how God sees you through this passage. How he has chosen you, how his power is in you, how much he loves you and fights for you. Our confidence should always come from the awesome love of Jesus that we get to experience daily. From knowing that *his* definition is all that matters at the end of the day. It is not our job performance, what we can or can't do, not our finances, not the other people who loves us—his definition is all that has eternal weight. He sees us as his precious child, covered in his grace, his special work of art, forgiven, redeemed, holy and blameless because of his love for us. That can be our confidence, this is where we find the peace and confidence. No matter rain or shine because these things will never change and we can trust that God is good. He is who he says he is and will do what he says he will do, *this* is our confidence, this is our peace that will hold steady like a rock in any storm that happens.