



Uncommon Confidence | Shawn Johnson | 10.20.2024

Weekly Study

SHARE

As group members get settled, take a few minutes to check in with everyone and see how life is going. Share an exciting story from this week, your highs and lows, an answered prayer, or something you're struggling with. If someone is really struggling, rally the group around them and take a few moments to pray over them.

- **Share a high and a low from last week.**
- **Share a moment or situation in life when you were the most confident you've ever been. What contributed to that confidence?**

GROW

In our journey of faith, we often encounter storms that shake our confidence. This message delves into the transformative power of *Uncommon Confidence*, rooted in our relationship with God. Pastor Shawn broke down Jesus' experience in the Garden of Gethsemane (Matthew 26), where He transitions from overwhelming sorrow to unwavering resolve. This powerful narrative teaches us that true confidence comes not from our circumstances but from our connection with God. The key? Three things:

1. Create a 'common place' for regular communion with God. When we seek God with frequency and consistency in a place that's safe and accessible for us, we begin to gain a clearer picture of His character and love.

2. Practice 'uncommon prayer.' It's easy to get stuck praying prayers that start with, "God, I want... God, I need...God, please...." Don't worry, we've all been there. But when we surrender our desires and seek God's will for our lives, our hearts become aligned with His, which empowers us to run further and faster for the kingdom of God than we ever could on our own, knowing that we are never alone.
3. Embrace 'uncommon obedience.' When we walk in obedience to god's will for our lives, we can walk with an uncommon, supernatural confidence that His power will be made perfect in our weakness.

Read Judges 6:12-16, Psalm 73:26

- **What were your biggest takeaways from Shawn's message?**
- **What do the verses teach us about uncommon confidence?**
- **In what ways do you find yourself praying 'common prayers' versus 'uncommon prayers' as described in the sermon? How might shifting to more 'uncommon prayers' change your relationship with God?**
- **How does having a consistent 'place' to meet with God impact our spiritual growth and confidence? What might this look like in your own life?**

M O V E

This message challenges us to run towards our storms, not away from them, reminding us that as believers, we are 'built different' - equipped with the same spirit that raised Christ from the dead. It's an inspiring call to trust God's strength in our weaknesses and to live with uncommon confidence in the face of life's challenges.

Read Hebrews 10:32-36, Psalm 16: 8, 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

- **What does it mean to you to 'run through storms' like a buffalo rather than away from them like other animals? How might this mindset change how you approach difficulties?**
- **Is there an area of your life in which your confidence has been crushed? Explain.**
- **What do you think God might be trying to reveal to you through the verses above? What sticks out to you?**
- **What is one area of your life in which you've been hesitant to take a step of obedience towards something the Lord is trying to do in your life? What is the biggest thing holding you back?**

P R A Y

Did you know that through Jesus, we are invited to approach God's throne of grace through prayer with a supernatural confidence? This week, spend some time praying for three things:

1. **CLARITY:** God, I give you this week to do in my life, whatever you want to do. Not my will, but Yours.
2. **COURAGE:** God, give me an opportunity to step out in obedience this week and the courage to say "Yes!"
3. **CONFIDENCE:** God, help me with my fears, doubts, insecurities, and unbelief. Help me learn to trust that wherever I fall short, You will fill in the gap.

As you pray over these things this week, refer to these verses as a reminder that you can pray with confidence in the things to come:

- **1 John 5:14 (NIV)** "This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us."
- **Hebrews 10:19-22 (NIV)** "Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus... let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings."

- **Hebrews 4:16 (NIV)** "Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."
- **Ephesians 3:12** "In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence."