

# Becky Combee Ministries, Inc.

## Confident Prayer

By Becky Combee

The apostle James challenged us, opening our hearts to successful living, when he said, “A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.”<sup>1</sup> This verse of Scripture is graphically etched in my mind because recently Wayne and I decided to buy a new sofa. We went from store to store until I was reeling in despair. After evaluating each piece of furniture with “maybe,” “possibly,” or “close,” I was depressed. It would have been wonderful to know what I wanted. But I was double minded.

A double-minded man has two opinions. Contrary to faith, he is both “yes” and “no.” **Faith has one idea or one desire.** This desire is not cloaked in mystery but is concretely revealed to our heart by God’s Word and the Holy Spirit. When Jesus spoke to the disciples after the fig tree He cursed had withered, He said, “What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.”<sup>2</sup> This introduction to the prayer of faith was far beyond a “do something, God, do anything” prayer. It was prayer based on a specific desire; prayer that had been nurtured by the wisdom of heaven.

The psalmist showed us how to know God’s will when he said, “Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.”<sup>3</sup> The Hebrew verb that is translated “give” has many meanings. These include the words “add, appoint, ascribe, assign, bring forth, cause and frame.” When we delight in the Lord,

He will cause His desire to be framed in our heart. We will know His will.

In James 1:5, the Word of God says, “If any lack wisdom, let him ask of God.” What an easy directive. If you need to know God’s will, just ask Him. The glorious conclusion to our request is that God’s wisdom will be given. The apostle Paul confirmed this truth when he testified to the church at Corinth, “We have the mind of Christ.”<sup>4</sup> In the book of

## Sure

By Suzanne D. Williams

*sure* [shoor, shur] sur-er, sur-est, adv., adj. 1. free from doubt as to the reliability, character, action, etc., of something: to be sure of one's data. 2. confident, as of something expected: sure of success. 3. convinced, fully persuaded, or positive: to be sure of a person's guilt. 4. assured or certain beyond question: a sure victory. 5. worthy of confidence; reliable; stable: a sure messenger.

I was listening to a worship song and the word "sure" leaped out at me from the bridge.

*My soul secure  
Your promise **sure**  
Your love endures...always.\**

Instantly, the verse from Romans 4:16 arose in my spirit.

Colossians, he again agreed when he stated, "All wisdom and knowledge are hidden away in [Christ]." He declared that "as [our] hearts are joined together in love, [we] will be wonderfully blessed with complete understanding."<sup>5</sup> I am certain this promise of knowledge and wisdom is for the church corporately and the members individually.

When we seek God's will, God will hear our cry and help us. Through the prophet Jeremiah, He declared, "Pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you."<sup>6</sup> The psalmist recorded, "The Lord will hear when I call unto him."<sup>7</sup> King Solomon wrote, "[The Lord] hears the prayers of the righteous."<sup>8</sup> Then our Lord Jesus said, "Ask, and you will receive. Search, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened for you."<sup>9</sup> There is no doubt, absolutely

none, that God, our Father, will answer our prayer. He does not ignore our petition, but reveals His will.

When we know God's plan, our faith is planted in Him. We are not tossed about like a boat on stormy seas. We do not waver, hesitate, doubt or stagger. God has spoken to our heart and we are confident! Like Abraham, we are strong in faith, fully persuaded that what God has promised He will perform.<sup>10</sup>

In his book *Christ the Healer*, F. F. Bosworth said, "Faith begins where the will of God is known." Today, our journey of faith has begun.

<sup>1</sup>Jas 1:8 <sup>2</sup>Mk 11:24 <sup>3</sup>Ps 37:4 <sup>4</sup>1Co 2:16 <sup>5</sup>Col 2:2-3 CEV <sup>6</sup>Jer 29:12  
<sup>7</sup>Ps 4:3 <sup>8</sup>Pr 15:29 NLT <sup>9</sup>Mt 7:7 CEV <sup>10</sup>Ro 4:20-21, author's  
paraphrase

*Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be **sure** to all the seed.*

A sure promise! You and I are "all the seed" talked about here. Jesus has given us a sure promise, one that cannot be taken away. Instead, it is secure, reliable, and free from doubt.

Jesus, as Peter began to sink in the water, stretched out His hand to him and asked the question, "Wherefore didst thou doubt?" I'd like to ask you this same question today.

That question seems archaic, but its answer is life-changing. Why do we doubt when the promise is SURE to us? Instead we are to come boldly to the throne asking for help. (Heb 4:16) Why? Because we know our heavenly Father is there to help us.

Peter sank, not because of the size of the waves or the strength of the wind, he sank because he got his eyes off the sure promise. He stopped looking at Jesus.

But you know, the Word of God doesn't stop there. Paul in the book of Timothy refers to a "sure foundation."

*Nevertheless the foundation of God*

*standeth **sure**. (2Ti 2:19)*

And again, in Hebrews the word "sure" returns in talking about hope.

*Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both **sure** and steadfast. (Heb 6:19)*

A sure and steadfast hope. A sure promise. A sure foundation.

**"Excuse me, I'm just going to talk to my daddy and He'll fix it."**

Our heavenly Father has promised to answer when we call on him with a sincere heart. When we fix our eyes on His Word and speak faith to our situation, He said HE WILL do it. It's really that simple! (Jn 14:14)

Suddenly we're not like the sea, tossed and turned, by every wind of doctrine. (Jas 1:6) We're faith-filled confident Christians. We "know whom we have believed and are persuaded that He is able to keep His Word." (2Ti 1:12, author's paraphrase) We expect the answer because of the reliability of Him in whom we believe.

We are sure! Hallelujah!

*\*For Who You Are, Hillsong*