

Curriculum



SAMPLE *In The Waiting*

Anger
Worry
Self-Confidence
Despair
Isolation

A sample of In The Waiting curriculum begins on the following page.



LEARN: Overview

Biblical Business Training (“BBT”) equips people to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ and empowers leaders in a small-group Bible study setting to apply Biblical principles at work. Our mission is [Faith for Work](#) – and our vision is [Leadership for Life!](#)

To find out more, visit www.B-B-T.org.



Curriculum: The BBT 1-2-3™ Format

BBT curriculum is rooted in Scripture and applicable the day you study it. The *BBT 1-2-3™* format enables the group to have a consistent Biblical basis for discussion.



1 Agenda – Introduces applicable Biblical principles



2 Group Leader Guide – Facilitates discussion and allows for shared leadership



3 Recap – Encourages community and application



LIVE: Sample In the Waiting

This [BBT](#) volume of curriculum offers strengthening scriptural truths for those in a period of personal waiting.

1. **Anger**
2. **Worry**
3. **Self-Confidence**
4. **Despair**
5. **Isolation**

This BBT volume of curriculum was adapted from the book “How Long, O Lord, How Long?” by Dale Kreienkamp. While the book is not necessary to use with the study, we encourage BBT users to purchase the book for personal devotion time or to bless someone going through a period of waiting on the Lord. Books may be purchased [here](#).



LEAD: Start a small-group Bible study

Start leading today! [Learn more.](#)



PRAYERS



LEARN

Where Is It?

Dave lost something on this journey. It was there, but now it's gone. It's his self-confidence, and he wants it back. He feels "adrift," lacking confidence and direction. He doesn't like this feeling. What does he do? Have you ever felt like Dave?

Self-confidence comes from repeatedly being successful. Think about learning to tie your shoes. At first, you have little confidence, fumbling with the laces, getting frustrated, maybe even crying and asking for help. But then with each attempt, the laces begin to cooperate, and the repetition solidifies your confidence in your ability to tie your shoes. You gain confidence with each small victory that, added up over time, becomes your self-confidence.

The opposite occurs when there are repeated failures or perceived failures. The confidence you had in your abilities begins to decline. Your self-pride is shaken. No longer do you have direction and a sense of purpose. No longer are you the source of your confidence. Maybe the "you" as the source or the "self" in the confidence has been the problem all along.

In Him

God's word says, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." (Ephesians 2:8-10). God is the source of our confidence. If you can shift from believing in yourself to believing He is the source of your abilities, and that He gave them to you as a gift, it is humbling. Each person's skills and abilities are unique to them which He created to accomplish good works that He already prepared in advance.



LIVE

Discussion questions: Read the text and scriptures below and prepare to answer the questions.

1. Read [Ephesians 2:8-10](#) and [Colossians 3:23-24](#). How is your self-confidence rooted in your identity?
2. Read [James 4:6-8](#). When has your pride kept you from God's help or the help of others?
3. Read [Deuteronomy 31:6](#) and [Psalm 20:7](#). What is the source of your confidence?
4. Read [1 Peter 5:8-11](#) and [2 Corinthians 12:9](#). When does your weakness become your strength?

Application Question: How will you begin to switch from self-confidence to God-confidence?



PRAYERS

Prayer Requests & Closing Prayer



PRAYERS

Opening Prayer & Prayer Requests



LEARN

Before you begin, read the AGENDA LEARN introduction together and review the APPLICATION QUESTION from the previous meeting's RECAP.



LIVE

Discussion Questions: Have someone read each Bible verse aloud and then ask the corresponding question. Be sure everyone has enough time to find the Scripture before the verse is read.

1) Read [Ephesians 2:8-10](#) and [Colossians 3:23-24](#) How is your self-confidence rooted in your identity?



Our identity is not found in what we do, but in what God has done for us. Every day is an opportunity to “work” for God, and if you internalize this approach, you may find yourself thinking differently about your employment opportunities.



It can be hard to accept, internalize and respond to His gift in a manner glorifying to Him. But God loves us for who we are, not what we do. We are His handiwork. In return, whatever we do should be done in thankful response to His grace and love. It is important to take time to let God love us for who we are, not for what we did, are doing or will do. We all need gentleness and grace for ourselves and others. It's not who we are; it's whose we are.



Facilitate a brief discussion. You might ask, “Is your self-worth and security wrapped up in what you do, how you do it or for whom?”

Notes:

2) Read [James 4:6-8](#). When has your pride kept you from God's help or the help of others?



Asking for help from others requires humility, something God favors.



Everyone has some amount of personal pride, and many base it on their worldly success. Through the journeys of unemployment, health crises, or other significant life changes, often self-confidence is shaken. Our usefulness to others, our status among our peers, our paycheck, etc. may all be gone. How then do we ask for assistance? It can be a humbling experience to put aside our pride, admit we don't have all the answers, and humble ourselves before God. But in doing so, it allows Him to work through us and others as we trust Him to open those difficult doors.



Facilitate a brief discussion. Talk about how it feels to admit needing help from God and others. Share about a time when asking for help was hard for you.

Notes:

3) Read [Deuteronomy 31:6](#) and [Psalm 20:7](#). What is the source of your confidence?



Instead of believing in ourselves, we need to shift to a belief that our skills and abilities come from God.



When we are employed, have good health, etc. and all is going as we planned, likely we feel a sense of direction, positive reinforcement and confidence in our skills and abilities. This can change quickly with uncertainty at work or other devastating news with a realization that we were taking credit and taking things for granted. It is important in this shift to remember our confidence is in Him and to give credit where credit is due. It's also important to remember in the battles of life; we are not alone. God restores our confidence by His power when we turn our struggles over to Him.



Facilitate a brief discussion. You might ask, "When do you give God credit for your success or skills and abilities?"

Notes:

4) Read [1 Peter 5:8-11](#) and [2 Corinthians 12:9](#). When does your weakness become your strength?



The devil seeks to steal, kill and destroy but God has already won, and your weakness becomes your strength when you humble yourself to His power.



In life, we all have things we do well and often we rely on them to maintain our self-confidence. But when the devil picks away at that, our weaknesses are revealed. It is tempting to believe the lies of the devil, but God controls everything – even though sometimes we think we do. When we humble ourselves before him and reveal our weakness to Him, it allows His power to work through us instead.



Facilitate a brief discussion. Talk about a time you allowed God to work things together for your good and ask others to share. Also, be sure to check out the BBT volume of curriculum on [Prayer](#)

Notes:

Application Question: How will you begin to switch from self-confidence to God-confidence?



PRAYERS

Prayer Requests & Closing Prayer



LEAD

Ask Yourself: How is God humbling me in my present circumstances?



PRAYERS

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ROADMAP

This [BBT](#) volume of curriculum offers to strengthen scriptural truths for those experiencing unexpected career transitions and workplace insecurity. This lesson uncovers the true source of our confidence and the role of humility.



LEARN

Paul points out that God's love is boundless, and we can do nothing to earn it. James says that being able to rely on God and ask for help from others requires us to give up our pride and be humble. 2 Corinthians reminds the reader that we can only receive God's power when we stop relying on our efforts alone.

Scripture references for this study: [Ephesians 2:8-10](#), [James 4:6-8](#), [Deuteronomy 31:6](#), [Psalm 20:7](#), [Colossians 3:23-24](#), [1 Peter 5:8-11](#) and [2 Corinthians 12:9](#).



LIVE

- Confidence in God's love
- Confidence in God's grace
- Confidence in God's power

Application Question: How will you begin to switch from self-confidence to God-confidence?



LEAD

Ask Yourself: How is God humbling me in my present circumstances?