LEARNING TO LIKE YOURSELF
JERRIANN SAVELLE NEWTON

CONFIDENCE: AN INSIDE JOB
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THE COMMANDED BLESSING
JERRY SAVELLE

THE SPIRIT OF FAVOR ON YOUR HOUSE
THE COMMANDED BLESSING

JERRY SAVELLE
I REMEMBER WHEN I CAME ACROSS AN INTERESTING STATEMENT WHILE READING ALEXANDER MACLAREN’S *EXPOSITIONS OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURE*. A RENOWNED PREACHER WHOSE MINISTRY SPANNED MORE THAN FIFTY YEARS, MCLAREN SAID, “HAPPY AND FORTUNATE IS THE LIFE THAT GOD’S COMMANDED BLESSING IS UPON.” WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION WAS THE WORD *COMMANDED*.

I’ve taught numerous times how God *conferred* the blessing upon Adam and Eve when He said, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth” (Genesis 1:28). The word confer means “to bestow as a gift or favor; to honor.” But to *command* has a very different meaning.

The Hebrew word translated as command literally means “to enjoin; to charge; to put in order.” The blessing God conferred upon mankind in the garden was a gift of love. But the commanded blessing is a decree, an authoritative order, that bears with it God’s eternal purpose. The commanded blessing is different than the conferred blessing which is a free gift.

The commanded blessing is available to all of God’s people, but not all of them will experience it or walk in it. Deuteronomy 28:2 tells us the type of person who will walk in the commanded blessing, “And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the Lord your God.”

As the Lord began speaking to me about His commanded blessing, I started to get new insights from scriptures I’ve read hundreds of times. Deuteronomy 28:8 says, “The Lord will command the blessing on you in your storehouses and in all to which you set your hand, and He will bless you in the land which the Lord your God is giving you.”
Notice the Lord has commanded His blessing upon the obedient. If you are obedient, then this commanded blessing is for you. He will command His blessing on everything you set your hand to; He will command it on your storehouses; He will command it upon the land He has given you.

Once God commands His blessing on you and your house, He intends for it to be there forever. But the sad part is, the blessing can be upon a house, and yet there are those who will never experience the benefits. We see this principal illustrated in the story of Jesus healing the paralyzed man.

Now it happened on a certain day, as He was teaching, that there were Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting by, who had come out of every town of Galilee, Judea, and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was present to heal them (Luke 5:17).

This verse tells us that healing and the anointing were in the house, yet we don’t see one single person who was part of the religious group of Pharisees and teachers get healed. Not one. Although the power was there to heal them, those who were sitting right there hearing Jesus teach didn’t tap into it. Consequently, none were healed. Someone did, however, get healed that day—but it wasn’t one of them.

Then behold, men brought on a bed a man who was paralyzed, whom they sought to bring in and lay before Him. And when they could not find how they might bring him in, because of the crowd, they went up on the housetop and let him down with his bed through the tiling into the midst before Jesus (Luke 5:18–19).

When these men heard the power of God was in the house—that Jesus was in the house—they went and got their friend, put him on a stretcher, and took him to the Master. When they arrived, the house was so crowded they couldn’t get through the door or even through a window. But they didn’t give up. They were so determined to tap into what was available for them that they carried their friend to the top of the house, tore a hole in the roof, and lowered him down to Jesus.

When He saw their faith He said to [the paralytic],
“Man, your sins are forgiven you.” Immediately he rose up before them, took up what he had been lying on, and departed to his own house, glorifying God” (Luke 5:20, 25).

Setting our sights on the commanded blessing requires that we have faith—the kind of faith we might call “roof-tearing-off faith.” The moment those men lowered their friend to Jesus, we’re told that He saw their faith. Faith moved Jesus then, and it still moves God today.

Once we’ve set our sights of faith on the commanded blessing, tapping into it requires that we put a demand on it. Having experienced living under the commanded blessing of God firsthand, I’ve identified six things we can do to activate our faith for the commanded blessing.

**FIRST**, we must be aware that the commanded blessing exists. That’s why I have poured my life into teaching people around the world about God’s blessing and how to walk in His favor.

**SECOND**, we must believe the commanded blessing belongs to us—which we can do if we base our belief upon the Word of God. The Bible is filled with scriptures that support this truth. One of my favorites is Psalm 45:2 which says, “God has blessed you forever.”

**THIRD**, we should speak the blessing over our lives continually. The apostle Paul was quoting King David when he said, “According as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak” (2 Corinthians 4:13 KJV). What both David and Paul are telling us is this: whatever we truly believe in our hearts is what we’re going to speak. In other words, if we truly believe the commanded blessing of God is upon our life, we will speak it continually. Psalm 35:27 says, “Let them say continually, ‘Let the Lord be magnified, who has pleasure in the prosperity of His servant.’”

**FOURTH**, develop our faith in the blessing of God. We do this by reading scriptures or listening to teaching about the blessing, because the Bible tells us, “Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17). If we do this consistently, next thing you know, we’ll begin to expect the blessing to show up. Faith and expectancy go together. If we truly have faith, then we’re going to expect results.
FIFTH, expect the blessing of God to manifest in some way every day of our lives. Jesus asked two blind men who had called out to Him, “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” (Matthew 9:28). When they answered yes, He touched their eyes and said, “According to your faith let it be to you” (Matthew 9:29), and they were instantly healed. The results they got were according to their expectancy; real Bible faith carries with it a positive expectancy.

SIXTH, demonstrate an attitude of gratitude. We should show God we are grateful and appreciate the fact that He has commanded the blessing upon our life and house. Being grateful opens the door to unlimited potential. I know I never get tired of my daughters telling me how much they love and appreciate me. Likewise, there are times when I am overcome with gratitude and I just have to stop and thank my Heavenly Father for the blessing He has commanded upon my life.

The Bible says, “The eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him” (2 Chronicles 16:9 KJV). I discovered being perfect toward God doesn’t mean never having made a mistake or having sinned. It means being “trustworthy, loyal, faithful, dependable, reliable, committed, and consecrated.” When I learned this, I said, “I can be that! God, if you’re looking for somebody who will be faithful and committed, search no more; I’m your man.” This should be the desire of every believer. Just tell God, “Search no more—here I am!”

God has commanded His blessing upon us, and He’s not going to change that decree. God does not take His commands lightly. Psalm 105:8 says, “He remembers His covenant forever, the word which He commanded, for a thousand generations.”
IF HE’S NOT GOING TO CHANGE IT, THEN IT’S UP TO US TO GET IN THE FLOW BY BEING OBEDIENT AND PUTTING A DEMAND ON THE BLESSING. IT’S TIME THAT THE BODY OF CHRIST STARTS TO EXPERIENCE THIS POWERFUL BLESSING OF GOD AND BE AN EXAMPLE OF LIGHT IN THE DARK WORLD. AS PEOPLE OF GOD, LET’S ACTIVATE OUR FAITH FOR THE COMMANDED BLESSING OF GOD!
New from Jerry Savelle!

Be one of the first to join Jerry and explore a biblical perspective of what you can expect when the spirit of favor is on your house.

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Faith Releases God’s Rewards
by Carolyn Savelle
Back in the early 1970s, Jerry and I were young, had two little girls, and no money. There were many times that we didn’t know where the money would come from for food or rent. I even remember searching for empty bottles on the side of the road so we could turn them in for a 5 cent recycling refund.

I know what it is like to have needs—even for the most basic things. I also know how easy it is for our focus to shift off of God as our source and be distracted by the things we need. This can also happen just as easily with the things we want, the comfort items of life.

Jesus’ words in Matthew 6:33 (NLT) still ring true for the body of Christ today: “Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.”

Every need, every want is fulfilled and supplied when we make seeking God our greatest ambition. The author of Hebrews promises us that, “Without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him” (Hebrews 11:6).

I have discovered and experienced God as the rewarder of those that diligently seek him! I have seven grandchildren, and when my grandchildren please me, they get rewarded. Mimi is a rewarder. Papa is always a rewarder. At times when they
don’t please us, we still love them. Our love for them doesn’t change, but you don’t see us rewarding bad choices or behavior.

**It’s the same way with God, when our ways please the Lord, He is a rewarder of those that diligently seek Him.**

Jerry and I experienced this first-hand during that time in our lives when we had very little money but very many needs.

Jerry had recently accepted God’s calling on his life and we were both seeking God diligently. We refused to let our circumstances distract us or weaken our faith. We were determined to please God in every area of our lives and we saw God move time and time again to bless us and meet our needs.

I remember one time we received a postcard in the mail that said Kenneth Hagin was going to be in Tyler, Texas. He was one of our favorite preachers, but there was a problem. The meeting was 100 miles from our house and the engine in our car had blown up that week. We joined hands and prayed that our God would somehow get us to Tyler, Texas to so we could be in those meetings.

A short time later, a lady who came to our Bible study every week called Jerry. She said she was test driving a new car and the salesman said she could drive it to Tyler, Texas. She said, “Would you drive my car and check it out?” God provided the ride! On the way to the meeting, we were believing God for a front row seat. We got there and they said the whole place is already full, there are no seats. All of the sudden an usher came out and said, “I found three seats.” He found three folding chairs in the closet and put them in front of the front row. Guess where we were taken? To the front of the front row! God was showing us then that He was a rewarder of those that diligently seek Him.

From that moment until now, our faith has continued
to grow, and so has God’s rewards! Jerry and I are so blessed today. But we have never stopped seeking God. We have never stopped growing in our faith and our relationship with Him.

Hebrews 11:1 says, “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” This means that our lives today are the result of our beliefs and expectations from yesterday. It also means our lives tomorrow will be determined by what we believe and expect today. Things don’t just happen in our lives by accident. They come about because our faith is the substance that produced them.

The Bible talks about people with no faith, little faith, and great faith. Scripture even mentions people with exceeding great faith. When we were born again, we are all given “the” measure of faith, not “a” measure (Romans 12:3). One person is not given a larger measure, another person a much larger measure, while another receives a smaller measure. We were all given “the” measure of faith at the time of our new birth. But “the” measure of faith shouldn’t stay at that level. “The” measure of faith can grow and increase depending on how much of God’s Word we put on the inside of us (Romans 10:17).

The more diligently you seek God, the greater your faith will grow.
In those early days, Jerry and I diligently sought God by studying His Word, praying, listening to faith-filled messages, and reading articles like this one. It has worked in our lives and God is no respecter of persons.

As the body of Christ, we must be about seeking first the Kingdom of God. When our focus is on Him and pleasing Him, He will take care of every need and desire we have. In fact, He will even surprise us with more than we could have ever imagined! 🙏

For more information and teaching resources from Carolyn Savelle click here.
Confidence: An Inside Job
by Terri Savelle Foy
How many times have you seen someone doing something that you would love to do but thought, “There’s no way I could do that!” I know women who see a cute pair of shoes but then tell themselves, “I could never pull off wearing those!”

Sure shoes and some things are not that big of deal, but many people are trapped and held back because of a lack of confidence. But if ignored, these insecurities will steal our potential, dreams, and future from us.

I read a story about a guy named Victor who, at fifteen years old, was told by his teacher that he wouldn’t amount to much. She recommended he drop out of school and learn a trade. Because he was told he was an idiot, Victor acted like one for the next seventeen years. Then, when he was thirty-two years old, he found out he had an IQ of 161.

Since discovering how smart he really was, he began to act smart. Since that time, Victor has become a successful businessman, written several bestselling books, secured several patents, and even became the chairman of the Mensa Society (an organization that requires its members have an IQ of 131 or higher).

Know this: Your level of confidence affects all areas of your life including your career, family, friends, and even relationship with God.

In order to build my own confidence, I have taken strategic steps that have equipped me to step out of my comfort zone and go after my dreams. More than anything, I want that for you. Isn’t it time you defeat all the insecurities that prevent you from your dreams?

My favorite Bible verse is found in John 17:4 (The Message), “I glorified you on earth by completing down to the last detail what you assigned me to do.” I want your confidence to grow to such a new level that you boldly take on the assignments God has for your life. I promise that He has given you everything you need to confidently live out your purpose. We just need to see it and believe it.

Anything you plan on accomplishing in life will require confidence.
Confidence is a quality that didn’t always come naturally to me. For many years, I was the opposite of confident. I saw this characteristic so clearly in other people and wanted it so badly, but I was filled with insecurities.

I’ve learned that insecurity is a dream killer. It will completely stop you from stepping out into the new and wonderful things God has planned for you. Sadly, insecurity runs rampant in today’s world. Many of us struggle with it, unable to move forward in our lives and experience the good and better things.

I’ve also discovered a lack of confidence is rooted in fear. It is a self-imposed limitation that will prevent success. It is a fear that you’re not good enough, not thin enough, not smart enough, not worthy enough, not educated enough, or not polished enough to succeed. Fear is the enemy of confidence!

Let me remind you that when God gives you a dream or a goal to pursue, it will look and seem impossible. “What?” you ask. That’s right! God wants you so dependent on Him for the fulfillment of your dreams that you must exercise faith to make it happen. “It’s impossible to please God without faith” (Hebrews 11:6 NLT). Why? Because it takes faith to achieve the impossible. And faith overcomes fear.

Confidence doesn’t come from some outside influences or a change in circumstances. What takes a person from being full of insecurities to being a confident, secure person is a change on the inside! Yes, outward changes are
important, but real confidence is developed from the inside.

Romans 12:2 advises us to be transformed by the renewing of our mind. How do we do that? By studying the Word of God. Renewing your mind is a two-step process. It requires getting rid of the old way of thinking, and replacing it with a new way of thinking. Speaking from experience, this can be done.

What you desperately need more than anything is to hear the Word of God consistently. If your mind is tormented with fearful, insecure, and debilitating thoughts, then you’re not hearing enough faith-building information to keep you motivated, strengthened, and encouraged. Every single time you hear God’s words, fear is leaving and faith is coming in.

“**Inaction breeds doubt and fear. Action breeds confidence and courage. If you want to conquer fear, do not sit home and think about it. Go out and get busy.”**

Dale Carnegie

Fill your mind with the Word of God. Do this on purpose—every day! Decide what time of day is best for you to do this on a consistent basis. Before you leave for work in the morning? Before you go to sleep at night? During your lunch hour? In the car while driving? In the kitchen while cooking? In the laundry room while folding clothes? In your office? In your garage? While you’re jogging?
After investing the time and energy to build our confidence on the inside, there will come a time when we must step out of our comfort-zone and act! Whatever God has called you to do will require some discomfort. I know. I don’t like the sound of that either. However, it’s true.

Don’t let fear or insecurity keep you from doing something challenging or different. God wants you to grow. Now. Not next month or next year. Now. Whatever Satan is trying to intimidate you away from doing, do it! Don’t allow him to torment you with fear. Torment him by stepping out in faith. One of the biggest reasons why successful people succeed is because they feel the fear and do whatever they feel called to do anyway. People who never see success allow fear to overcome them. It’s that simple.

You must build your confidence privately so God can use you in greater ways publicly. Don’t let your God-given potential die on the inside of you when God sees you as fully capable, fully qualified, and hand-chosen by Him to do something significant. 

In this powerful series, Build Your Confidence, Terri outlines practical steps you can take to change your opinion of yourself, find your source of confidence, grow in your relationship with God, and overcome insecurity. You don’t have to go another day living beneath your value and worth. You can build your confidence and fulfill your life assignment!

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LEARNING TO LIKE YOURSELF
by Jerriann Savelle Newton
AS FAR BACK AS I CAN REMEMBER, I WAS AN EMOTIONALLY NEEDY CHILD. I WALKED AROUND WITH A CLOUD OF SADNESS GLOOMING OVER ME, TRYING TO COVER IT AS BEST I COULD. I NEVER FELT GOOD ENOUGH AND REALLY NEVER LIKED MYSELF.

Early on, I was the troublemaker kid—the square peg who never fit in the round hole. Even as a teenager, I often acted out for attention, somehow hoping to find my identity and finally like myself.

From the outside, I looked put-together. I even won several awards during my school years from “Class Favorite” to “Freshmen Princess.” Yet, none of that mattered because I was always searching for someone to give me that magical feeling that would take all the pain away, love me forever, and bring value to my life. In my mind, I lived in a soap opera fantasy world where I would meet the perfect boy and we would live happily ever after. My whole existence depended on looking for someone else to make me happy. But the truth is nobody could ever make me happy because I was never happy with myself.

I have since discovered that not liking myself had been the root of all the insecurities in my life. It had also been the driving force in my search for approval. Combined with the insecurity was the condemnation I felt for all the poor choices I had made. It was like adding fuel to the fire of my already flaming feeling of worthlessness. I finally grew so weary of being bound by this harassing and relentless weakness in my life that I had to change the way I saw myself. I had to see myself through God’s loving eyes. It has taken me a very long time of working through the junk and removing the garbage from my thinking. In doing so, I can now say, I am comfortable being me, and I like me!

I have met and know so many people who struggle with some of the same emotional, self-loathing traps that I had been captured by. But thank God I broke free!

No, I’m not perfect (my husband and kids can tell you that), and I am continually working to fix my imperfections, but low self esteem no longer hovers over me like a dark cloud. Insecurity no longer causes me to look down and assume people won’t like me.
I can walk confidently into a room full of people with my head held high, not in arrogance, but because Jesus has lifted my head and given me a self-love that only comes from Him. He has healed me.

You may have thought before, “No one gets me!” or “No one understands me!” Both are lies. God gets you and understands you perfectly, because He made you in His image and His likeness. When you finally realize you are made exactly the way your Heavenly Father created you to be, it opens the door wide to freedom from insecurity and acceptance of your true self. It also slams the door on the devil and his attempts to keep you feeling insecure. Insecure people can never truly be all that God wants them to be. Secure people thrive at just being themselves. Don’t go another day intimidated by someone else because you have bought into the lie that they are better than you in some way.

My six children are all so different. They all have their strengths and weaknesses. I love them all the same and would never want to change one of their personalities for another. I will admit there are some who have easier going personalities than others, but I love them just the way they are. That is the way our Heavenly Father sees us. He knows our strengths and our weaknesses, and He still loves us! Some of

BUT YOU, LORD, ARE A SHIELD AROUND ME, MY GLORY, THE ONE WHO LIFTS MY HEAD HIGH.

-PSALM 3:3 (NIV)
us may have a more challenging way about us than others, but that doesn’t surprise God. He made you, and He’s so proud of you. If we give our weaknesses to Him, He will always turn them around and use them to His glory. He can always make something out of nothing!

This world needs a variety of personalities. It would be a boring place if we were all just alike. My house would be a boring house if all my kids acted alike. I like the diversity in my home. I have serious children, athletic children, artistic children, funny children, and I love all the differences. God likes diversity in His family too, and that’s why He created you with your particular personality. There are no favorites with God. We are all His favorites. He likes you just the way you are, actually, He loves you just the way you are!

If you struggle with knowing how very special you are, it’s time now to let the inner conflict go and like yourself. You have been captive to this draining anguish too long! I meet women all the time who deal with this struggle of not being content and confident. Knowing who you are in Christ not only makes you self confident, but it brings out “God confidence” in you. With “God confidence” on the inside, you become “fearless, afraid of no one and nothing” (Psalm 27:1 MSG).

**BE HAPPY BEING YOU.**
**BE AUTHENTIC.**
**BE REAL.**
**BE YOU.**

God made you just the way He wanted you, and there is nothing you can do about it, so accept it! Let fear go. Love and embrace yourself—every part of you.

When God looks at you, He approves of His masterpiece—you! You are complete and perfect in Him.
JERRIANN SAVELLE NEWTON is the founder of Jerriann Savelle Ministries where she focuses on ministering to women and encouraging them to be all that God has called them to be. For more information, visit JERRIANN.ORG
It took me a long time to stop the repeated events of broken relationships, to no longer be starved for attention from others, to learn how to be content within myself, and just be happy being me. After hitting the lowest point in my life, I finally began to pull apart the layers of pain, the layers of rejection, the layers of longing to be accepted.

Finally, I laid it all at the feet of Jesus.

I have truly discovered just how much God loves ME, and it’s a beautiful thing! This is my story, and maybe you can identify with my life in some way...

$15

jerrysavelle.org
PARTNER WITH US
The Apostle Paul gives us a wonderful picture of how God uses partnership to bless the lives of believers. He wrote to the Christians in Rome saying, “For I long to visit you so that I can impart to you the faith that will help your church grow strong in the Lord. Then, too, I need your help, for I want not only to share my faith with you but to be encouraged by yours: Each of us will be a blessing to the other” (Romans 1:11-12 TLB). Financial partnership is a biblical principle that God uses to bless you.

If this ministry has brought instruction into your life, if this ministry has helped you along the way in your spiritual growth, if it has blessed your life in some way, then Paul says in Galatians to communicate with us. The word communicate here in the literal Greek is a little deeper than saying, “I love your ministry.” It literally means to give and to partner with.

I would like to invite you to become a partner with this ministry. A partner in our ministry is one who shares the vision and goals of this ministry through prayer and sows faithfully and continuously, helping us achieve the vision and goals that God has given us. My mandate for over 45 years has been to teach people from God’s Word how to be winners in life.

There is no way we can fulfill all that God has planned for us without faithful partners. God designed it that way and the vision He has given us is simply too big without your help. It will take all of us working together to accomplish this God-honoring vision.

Just like the Apostle Paul, I want to impart to you from my spiritual gifts the faith that will help you grow. I believe that as you partner with us, you are going to experience in your life the same grace and favor that is on this ministry. I receive testimonies of it everyday!

I would be honored to have you as my partner. One of the greatest compliments I ever receive is when someone comes up and says, “Jerry, I’m your partner.” That is such a blessing to me. When you partner with me, it means you believe in the call of God on my life.
THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE PARTNERS AND FRIENDS OF JSMI. BECAUSE OF YOU, WE ARE ABLE TO FULFILL THE CALL OF GOD ON OUR LIVES AND REACH THE WORLD FOR JESUS CHRIST!

CALL 1-866-576-4872 OR GO TO JERRYSAVELLE.ORG TO START YOUR PARTNERSHIP TODAY!
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