

Joy and Confidence

Two Stories of Turning Around

1. Gideon

- **Judges 6:1 – 10** The total lack of joy and confidence. Caused by what?
- **Judges 6:11 – 24** What caused the turn around?

2. The Disciples after the Crucifixion

- **Luke 24:13 – 32** The total lack of joy and confidence. Caused by what?
- What caused their turn around?

As disciples of Christ, what are some of the causes for the lack of joy and confidence that we sometimes experience?

As disciples of Christ, what causes the turn around?

Why do you think God says in his word so many times: “*Do not be afraid*”?

What does joy and confidence have to do with what we read and study in the Bible?

Conclusion: As disciples of Christ, neither joy nor confidence is based on circumstances or our own abilities. The source of both is God, and the presence or absence of joy and confidence is affected by our faith. God must know how difficult that can be for us, even as men of God, because he wrote to us about it so many times. When you lack either, don't be surprised or embarrassed; admit it to God, repent of anything that is getting in your way, and make the decision to trust him to be joyful and confident.

Admit what your need is.

Repent.

Decide to rejoice and be confident in God.