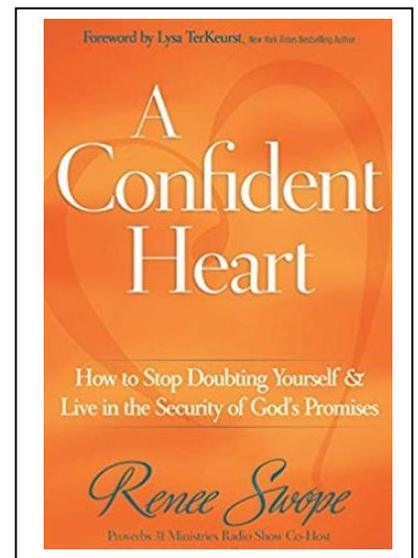


Title: A Confident Heart: How to Stop Doubting Yourself and Live in the Security of God's Promises

Author : Renee Snope

Category : Men / Women

Paperback : 240 pages



“Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.” 2 Corinthians 7:1 ESV

Doubts have a way of robbing our confidence away, of robbing our hearts away from the life we long to live uprightly with others. They come subtly and unconsciously we become a victim of the effects of doubts on our minds, our hearts, our lives and our others in our lives. Author and Proverbs 31 ministries blogger, Rene shares from the Word of God and from her life what it takes to help us rebuild the confidence we need to live our imperfect life. Some of those life experiences were ones which in most cases we rather hide than share.

She takes us through ten ways doubts affect us and directs us to God’s Word, His precious promises that we can hold on to with our dear lives so we can once again walk steady and confident in Christ.

Here are some notable peeks into the book (available for loan from our Resource Library):

“Sometimes I think we tell people we’re fine even when we’re not, because we want to be fine. Or we hope that by saying we are fine, eventually we will be. Other times we act like we’re fine because others expect us to be. Of course, there are days when hormones trump all good manners and reason. Days when anyone within ten feet knows you are not fine. Although we tell people we’re fine, what we really mean is that we are Frazzled, Irritated, Neurotic, and Exhausted!” (pg31)

“Slowly but surely, the walls around my heart started to come down. Over time God revealed His heart to me through sermons at a nearby church and books I read, but more than anything He spoke to me through the Bible. Through His written Word on the page and His living Word in the person of Christ, I came to know an up close and personal Saviour who pursues imperfect women like me. I read stories that echoed the struggles and desires of my heart. Tucked within those stories I discovered God’s promises and how He responds to the longings and hurts of His children. I read words that gave me hope and assured me that I was not alone.” (pg34)

“During endless days filled with changing diapers and doing laundry, wondering if we’ll ever find meaning in the monotony of motherhood, He is there. When we come home to an empty house and wonder why we don’t have a family or come home to a teenager who belittles us and a husband who ignores us, Jesus is there.” (pg37)

“Our schedules are full, our minds are full, our stomachs are full, our refrigerators are full, our closets are full, our lives are full. Yet we find ourselves with so many empty places. Why? Because the wells of our hearts were created to be filled by God alone. The deepest thirst of our soul can only be quenched by Him. Although the people and things I’ve listed are gifts, so many times we look to the gifts instead of the Giver to fill us and fulfil us with lasting security and significance.” (pg60)

“Salvation is a one-time decision but finding satisfaction in Christ and living in the security of His promises is a daily process.” (pg61)

**Title: The Gospel Comes with a House Key:
Practicing Radically Ordinary Hospitality in
Our Post Christian World**

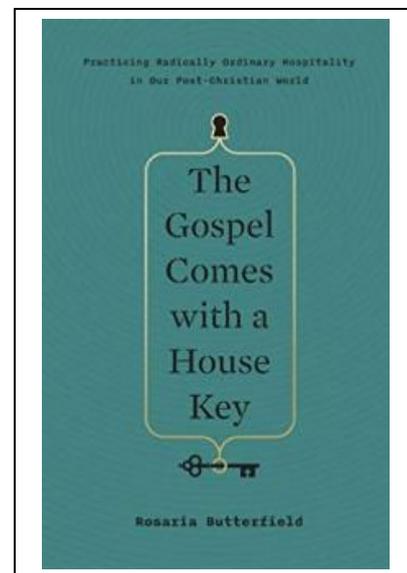
Author : Rosaria Butterfield

Category : Christian Living

Hardcover : 240 pages

“So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us.”

1 Thessalonians 2:8 ESV



This book is rather unattractive. One, the book cover is not attractive - it is dull green. Two, the topic is not attractive because ‘Radically Ordinary Hospitality’ is a very rare attribute in a modern society like Singapore. But this book is a good read with practical ideas if one desires to consider at least practice ordinary hospitality before being radical.

Throughout the book, you will catch a good glimpse of experiencing radically ordinary hospitality through Rosaria’s personal testimony; her life as a pastor’s wife and neighbour to the lives of folks in their neighbourhood as well as with those who cross paths with theirs. When crisis hits the neighbourhood, the church comes into action and brings out the aroma of Christ to the gathered so that all kinds of questions are answered, all sorrows are soothed, all hurting inside receives healing being poured out. This book is a rare gem. Highly recommended.

Some gems from the book:

“Someone may do very good things, things brimming with common grace, but if he has not repented and turned, placing all confidence in Christ for salvation, he will still - tragically- find eternity in hell. Common grace does not ingratiate us to God. Christ must rescue us; Christ must bleed for us; the Holy Spirit must comfort us. We must respond. Common grace is a works-driven blessing, and the Bible records our good works as filthy rags.” (pg55)

“We see people whom God has put into our lives - especially the difficult ones - as image bearers of a Holy God and therefore deserving of our best. Hospitality is image-bearer driven, because Christ’s blood pumps me whole. It is not time, convenience, and calendar driven. If it were, none of it would happen. None of this grace would be mine to hold and to share. ... Hospitality requires daily Bible reading, deep repentance, dark mornings in solitude, and the daily willingness to forgive others whether or not they ask.” (pg64)

“Sin demands isolation. While community does not inoculate us against sin, godly community is a sweet balm of safety. It gives us a place and a season where we are safe with ourselves and safe with others.” (pg111)

“It is deadly to ignore biblical teaching about serving the stranger - deadly to the people who desperately need help and deadly to anyone who claims Christ as King. Membership in the kingdom of God is intimately linked to the practice of hospitality in this life. Hospitality is the ground zero of the Christian life, biblically speaking. A more crucial question for the Bible-believing Christian is this: Is it safe to fail to get involved?” (pg115)

“Grace does not make the hard thing go away; grace illumines the hard thing with eternal meaning and purpose. Grace gives you company in your affliction, in Christ Himself and in the family of God.” (pg200)