

Theme & Passages	CONFIDENT DISCIPLESHIP: BEING CONVINCED Romans 8: 31-39	Notes prepared by Stephen Elmes
Welcome (10 mins)	<p>In a brilliant piece of comedy, Bill Bailey compares responses to the question, 'How are you', ranging from 'Awesome!' to 'Not too bad – all things considered.' You might like to watch Bill's 5-minute performance as a group, and/or share with each other where you each might be positioned on a spectrum between the two extremes he parodies (don't take this too seriously!). Here is the link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V7d79Knc8p4</p> <p>End your welcome time by praying for Bill Bailey, that God will reveal his love to him.</p>	
Worship (10 mins)	Read Psalm 100 and then give thanks to God for the signs of his love.	
Working with God (20 mins) Evangelism Discipleship Compassion Justice Creation Care	<p>On Sunday morning, Richard Deakin brought a frontline testimony and shared with us how he seeks to live out his faith and the values of the Kingdom in his work. It was very inspiring.</p> <p>You might like to listen to Richard's testimony together, which you can find in our Frontline Stories Channel here on our YouTube channel.</p> <p>Ponder and share your thoughts on how you might actively bring the values of God's Kingdom to your place of work/frontline.</p>	
Word (25 mins)	<p>Read Romans 8: 31-39</p> <p>On Sunday, morning and evening, Steve introduced our new preaching series, entitled, 'Confident Discipleship', telling us that over the next few months we will be looking at six keys to confidence. The first one is 'Being Convinced'</p> <p><i>How convinced are you of what you believe? Do you ever waver? Talk about this together. Read again Paul's bold statement in Romans 8:37-39. How do you respond to this?</i></p> <p>Steve referred briefly to two Old Testament characters: Abraham and Jeremiah, both of whom wavered in their confidence, and described how God had come to them personally to encourage them. This is the ministry of the Holy Spirit to every believer.</p> <p><i>Can you recall and share a time when God came close to encourage you and build your confidence in Him?</i></p>	
Following Through	<p>For this series we are drawing upon some resources provided by the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity (LICC). These include 40 days of devotional readings which you can access via the 'You Version' Bible App and searching for the reading plan 'Confidence Devotional Journey.'</p> <p>Alternatively, you can arrange for LICC to send you a devotion each day by email, by clicking HERE</p>	