

For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1:6 (NASB)

- The NIH says that between 2008 and 2018, "Anxiety increased from 5.12% in 2008 to 6.68%...among adult Americans. Stratification by age revealed the most notable increase from 7.97% to 14.66% among respondents 18–25 years old."
- Anxiety and Depression Association of America (ADAA) says anxiety disorders currently affect 10.1% of all US adults and 31.9% of Americans between 13–18 years of age.
- Boston University found that "Depression among adults in the United States tripled in the early 2020 months of the global coronavirus pandemic—jumping from 8.5 percent before the pandemic to a staggering 27.8 percent. New research from Boston University School of Public Health reveals that the elevated rate of depression has persisted into 2021, and even worsened, climbing to 32.8 percent and affecting 1 in every 3 American adults."

Three Biblical Reasons for Confidence in an Age of Anxiety:

I. God is _____

Paul and Timothy, bond-servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, including the overseers and deacons: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all, in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now. For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1:1–6 (NASB)

II.

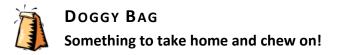
For it is only right for me to feel this way about you all, because <u>I have you in my heart, since both in my imprisonment</u> <u>and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all are partakers of grace with me</u>. For God is my witness, how I long for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1:7–8 (NASB)

III.

And this I pray, that <u>your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment</u>, so that you <u>may</u> <u>approve the things that are excellent</u>, in order to be <u>sincere and blameless until the day of Christ</u>; having been <u>filled</u> <u>with the fruit of righteousness</u> which comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

Philippians 1:9–11 (NASB)

Point: _____



1. Where do you put your confidence in life? Are you confident in your intellect? Your abilities? Your wealth? Your politics?

2. What would it look like to have confidence in Jesus Christ, and in what Jesus is doing within you?

3. Have you ever experienced enough of Jesus' work in your life that you are confident that He started something in you that no one can stop? Do you know that your best is yet to come? The best "you" is yet to come? That Christ is finishing what He started in you?

4. If you had confidence that Christ will complete what He started in your life, what would change about your life? How would you live differently? How would that assurance make you more Spiritually confident? How would that assurance make you more humble?

Suggestion: Join your pastors for Midday Prayer via LIVE.CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG each weekday at noon.

Check out our Sunday bulletin for opportunities to connect with the Christ Church family: <u>https://conta.cc/3OSRL5Z</u>

ANSWER KEY:

Reason I: God is <u>FAITHFUL. GOD FINISHES WHAT GOD STARTS</u>.
Reason II: <u>YOU BELONG TO CHRIST AND TO US</u>.
Reason III: <u>THE GRACE OF JESUS CHANGES PEOPLE</u>.
Point: <u>YOU CAN BE CONFIDENT THAT JESUS ISN'T FINISHED WITH YOU</u>.