The November CFAMC DEVOTIONAL PAGE
“Glory & Confidence”

As our own Greg Pascuzzi once said:

Most musicians I know combine arrogance and insecurity. But a few combine confidence and humility.

Greg said this in reference to this gentleman, Phil Smith, first trumpet in the NY Philharmonic. Greg introduced me to Phil after a concert. I told him what a great witness he is to Jesus on and off stage. His response was “Jesus kicks me in the rear end a lot.” (Which was confirmed when a friend of mine told me how she thought he did seem a bit arrogant many years ago.) That would have to mean that Phil Smith must be changing and growing, just like you and me. Or as John the Baptist once said:

I must decrease, but He must increase.
-JOHN 3:30
But since the title of
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is “Glory & Confidence”

let’s move to the other end of the spectrum from humility to glory

Different people have different ideas about what glory is.

For pharaohs
it’s big statues...

For musicians it’s standing ovations.

But for St Paul
that’s all just a lot of...
(cf. Philippians 3)

That’s because there’s only one REAL glory...
GOD’S!
No other glory exists except **ONE** glory: **GOD’S** glory.
Anything else is merely counterfeit. And that’s a crime.

But good news, fellow counterfeiters, we can grow **IN** God’s glory, in **Jesus**...

Paul Kiler: *Self-Portrait in Christ’s Image*
which is why JSB wrote...

(SCIENTIFIC FACT)

(Soli Deo Gloria)
("only to the glory of God")

...on all his manuscripts, because he knew better & was a C.F.A.M.C.

(Christian Fellow And Most Cool)

And in case you haven’t noticed, when you’re looking at your shadow, you’re not looking at the Light.
As our own Jesus once said:

If you lose your life for my sake you’ll find it.

BUT WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?!

THIS or THIS?
IT’S THIS!

Humility isn’t putting yourself down.

Humility is putting yourself ASIDE.

It leads to a new life: JESUS’ life in YOU.

I AM CRUCIFIED WITH CHRIST: NEVERTHELESS I LIVE; YET NOT I, BUT CHRIST LIVETH IN ME: AND THE LIFE WHICH I NOW LIVE IN THE FLESH I LIVE BY THE FAITH OF THE SON OF GOD, WHO LOVED ME, AND GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME.

-GALATIANS 2:20

But what about **Confidence**?

It IS very important. But where do you get it?

Maybe you’ve tried some of those self-help books...
It’s important to be **GOD**-confident!

**II CORINTHIANS 3:4-5**

For such is the confidence we have through Christ towards God, not that we are sufficient ourselves to think anything as of ourselves, but our sufficiency is of God.

I used to say the end of the above verse like this...

**EMPHASIS ON ME**

But now I say the end of the above verse like this...

**EMPHASIS ON GOD**

WOW!
I finally realized that it wasn’t that I shouldn’t be self-confident, but that I can’t be self-confident. In other words it just won’t work. It’s like this...

**MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTION:**
Which is the better place to build your house on?

1. **ON SAND**
2. **ON ROCK**

**ANSWER KEY:** #2

You are a house which God built, but God needs to be your foundation.
No other confidence exists except **ONE** confidence: **GOD**-confidence. Anything else is merely counterfeit. And that’s a crime.

But good news, fellow counterfeiters, if you’re feeling “arrogant and insecure” instead of “humble and confident”, we can all grow in **GOD**-confidence...

**CAST NOT AWAY YOUR CONFIDENCE, WHICH HAS GREAT RECOMPENSE OF REWARD, FOR YOU HAVE NEED OF PATIENCE, THAT HAVING DONE THE WILL OF GOD YOU MAY OBTAIN THE PROMISE.**

-HEBREWS 10:35

So then there is something that I’m supposed to do?
YES!

But whether you do this: 

Or whether you do this: 

(our own Adam Sovkoplas does both of the above.)

(from Allen Brings’ “Psalterium Davidicum”)

WHATSOEVER YOU DO, DO IT HEARTILY TO THE LORD, AND NOT UNTO MEN.
- COLOSSIANS 3:23
& REMEMBER...

You are equal, You are important, because God made you.

(You didn’t make yourself.)

KNOW YOU THAT THE LORD HE IS GOD: IT IS HE THAT HAS MADE US AND NOT WE OURSELVES.
-PSALM 100:3

I know all that, but sometimes life still gets hard.

As our own Jesus once said:

With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.

ONLY BELIEVE.