



Praying for Courage February 27, 2022

COURAGE DEFINED:

- One of the Hebrew words translated “courage” as “to be sharp, strong, confirmed”.
- The Merriam-Webster Dictionary says that courage is the “mental or moral strength to venture, persevere, and withstand danger, fear, or difficulty”.
- The New Testament Greek word for courage can also be translated as “confidence” or “boldness”.

PRAY FOR COURAGE IN CHALLENGING TIMES.

³³ “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” **John 16:33 NIV**

God speaking to Israel...

¹⁰ Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand. **Isaiah 41:10 NLT**

Paul writing to Timothy...

⁷ For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline. ⁸ So never be ashamed to tell others about our Lord. And don't be ashamed of me, either, even though I'm in prison for him. With the strength God gives you, be ready to suffer with me for the sake of the Good News. **2 Timothy 1:7-8 NLT**

PRAY FOR COURAGE TO LEAD WELL.

¹ After the death of Moses, the Lord's servant, the Lord spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' assistant. He said, ² “Moses my servant is dead. Therefore, the time has come for you to lead these people, the Israelites, across the Jordan River into the land I am giving them. ³ I promise you what I promised

Moses: ‘Wherever you set foot, you will be on land I have given you— ⁴ from the Negev wilderness in the south to the Lebanon mountains in the north, from the Euphrates River in the east to the Mediterranean Sea in the west, including all the land of the Hittites.’ ⁵ No one will be able to stand against you as long as you live. For I will be with you as I was with Moses. I will not fail you or abandon you. ⁶ “Be strong and courageous, for you are the one who will lead these people to possess all the land I swore to their ancestors I would give them. ⁷ Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do. ⁸ Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do. ⁹ This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” **Joshua 1:1-9 NLT**

- **We must firmly decide to be courageous.**
- **Being prepared gives us courage.**

⁷...Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do. **Joshua 1:7 NLT**

- **God's presence is critical to our courage.**

⁹...Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go. **Joshua 1:9 NLT**

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. **Psalms 23:4 NIV**

PRAY FOR COURAGE TO DO THE RIGHT THING.

³⁰ Jesus replied with a story: “A Jewish man was traveling from Jerusalem down to Jericho, and he was attacked by bandits. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him up, and left him half dead beside the road. ³¹ “By chance a priest came along. But when he saw the man lying there, he crossed to the other side of the road and passed him by. ³² A Temple assistant walked over and looked at him lying there, but he also passed by on the other side.

³³ “Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him. ³⁴ Going over to him, the Samaritan soothed his wounds with olive oil and wine and bandaged them. Then he put the man on his own donkey and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he handed the innkeeper two silver coins, telling him, ‘Take care of this man. If his bill runs higher than this, I'll pay you the next time I'm here.’

³⁶ “Now which of these three would you say was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by bandits?” Jesus asked. ³⁷ The man replied, “The one who showed him mercy.” Then Jesus said, “Yes, now go and do the same.” **Luke 10:30-37 NLT**

- **Be willing to do what's right even if it's not popular.**
- **Be willing to step out of your comfort zone to do what's right.**
- **Be willing to sacrifice for what is right.**

Next steps for me today...

- **Decide today to follow Jesus with courage.**