

Have you ever been close enough to touch a Lion... **Lion Video** Have you ever been truly afraid?

Fall is one of my favorite times of year. Changing leaves and seasons. Different smells. Cooler weather. Animals.. Football, Deer Hunting.

It is also the time of year, when I start to get a little bit more on edge.

Its almost like the whole world loses its mind Moon of Madness: Animals act a little differently.... People too

Death and Darkness seems to settle in. Scary things start to happen. Scary Movies... Halloween – Day of the Dead... **TRUE FEAR**

We are living in scary times! There's always shift in our cultures over time. Not Drastic changes... barely noticeable at all in fact.

How people think, what they find funny, What they say, and eventually how they live. Shift is inevitable... Change is Life!

The past few years, the subtle has been replaced by the blatant. Priorities are different than they use to be... as well as interactions.

The world we know today is different than the one many of us grew up in... **What am I really afraid of? - Why?**

**Israel – Hamas – Hezbollah** This is physical expression of spiritual war in all of us righteousness / wickedness...

While none of us in this room had to run to the bomb shelters this week, fight for our lives or our families physical safety...

All of us are in an active spiritual war b/t good and evil all the time... the enemy has declared war on you and your home...

Don't believe the lie "If you keep your head down spiritually, don't make too many waves... we'll be safe"

Darkness is hiding  
in plain sight

Leads many to believe that by engaging in the spiritual realm of life, we become a target... **You are a Target**

Now is the **time for courage**... Mission and Vision **Specifically Last Week:** **120 Day Results** **Hammer and Sword**

**Campaign Launch** – Help you bring Holy Habits in your Home.

*Providing: presenting challenges, resources, and opportunity to practice, build and defend faith (church, individuals, Fam*

Crib – Coffin  
Womb – Tomb

As we launch this campaign, It may be helpful for some of you to know – the next 3 weeks is frame and foundation

Wk 1 – Context – **Where Fear come from** Wk 2 – **How** to interact with Fear; Wk 3 – What is **Courage?** **stand up... bow down** **Discussion**

Courage:  
In the Face of Fear

What are you afraid of? I hate to do this to you guys... but I think we need a dose of reality...stare at the **face of fear**....

Fear comes from the beginning of time... and will last through the end of time... Hightened in the worst of times...

**Mt 24 Wars and Rumors of Wars** Israel: Something Special History- **QR** **Warning!**

**Why should I be concerned about the conflict happening in Israel?**

The story of Israel's Conflict that we see today doesn't begin 1947/1948, it begins in the Garden...

Garden: **G3** **Nephilim:** **Gen 6** Physical expression of the spiritual influence [The Giant Clans and the Conquest - Dr. Michael Heiser \(drmsch.com\)](#)

Abraham: **Gen15.16** **Israel 3 things... Name, Word, Messiah**

Ishmael/Isaac **Gen 16.12 – opposed to everyone G21.9 3x – Joseph, Samson, Gal 4... 4:21-31 – Paul Explains the Conflict between Isaac and Ishmael | Pastors Study (pastors-study.com)**

Jacob : Joseph Moses: **D7.1-6** Sent 12 into to Canaan Joshua/Judges

David: **1 Sam 17** **2 Sam 21.15-22** Ishbi-Benob, Saph, Goliath's Brother, Canaanites

Rise... Fall into moral Decay / Division... Led away to captivity... Return Home as Slaves to the Global Powers... Wait for Messiah

Missed the Messiah – Everything they knew destroyed... Driven from the Home again... Few Zealots with Masada **Zec 12.3**

600 AD – Muslim Community **Evil will claim what we neglect** **Evil will always fortify what we forfeit.**

**What have I neglected, that I need to reclaim? What am I in danger of forfeiting?**

The story of Israel's Conflict that we see today is the story of the Church? We've been called to fight the same battle

**Israel 3 things... Name, Word, Messiah**

After the physical expression of the Spiritual evil had been eliminated... spirits remained... Demons – Spiritual Forces of Evil

These spiritual forces have plagued humanity from the time of the OT

One of the very 1<sup>st</sup> miracles know Jesus does is cast a demon out of man in the synagogue...

1<sup>st</sup> miracle is Water to Wine, 2<sup>nd</sup> Exorcism: Yea... but those only happened in the Bible, weird catholic circles and movies...

1<sup>st</sup> Jesus ministry; 12 - **Mark 6.7 Gave them authority over unclean spirits** 2<sup>nd</sup> year J. 72 - **Lk10.17 – even the Demons sub to us in your name**

3<sup>rd</sup> Jesus sends 120 – Go to Jerusalem and wait for the Spirit – **Mk16.15,16,17** Spiritual Forces of Evil Roam the earth looking for prey...

**Am I afraid of the right thing?**

The Story of Israel's Conflict is my Story

These spiritual forces of evil consumes us by feeding our passions....

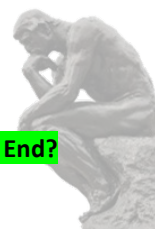
with lust, greed, envy, rage, distraction, division, pain, disease and death...

All of this Keeps our focus on the pain of this world... not the Prince of Peace

**The same forces of evil from the beginning of time are coming after our homes in real time** **How will my story End?**

All of this is why we are launching this campaign of **Courage: In the Face of fear**

**We are not trying to make you afraid... simply aware.... After all... Fear is the birthplace of courage...**



**In16.33** *I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace... in this world you will have trouble... but take heart... (Courage)...* **I have overcome the world**

**Primary Challenge/Habit: Growing in our knowledge (closeness/intimacy) of Christ to eradicate/put to death fear.**

**Touch the Lion** – if you can't touch it... at least get a little closer to him

Lean into your fears **Work my Salvation out with Fear and Trembling Ph2.12,13**

Define Courage

What are you the most afraid of?

What expressions of "Evil Spirits" are there in the world today?

How would you describe courage to a child? (Same question, but an adult?)

How could you become more courageous?

~~Definition of Campaign: Creating holy habits in the home by providing and presenting challenges, resources, and opportunity to practice and build faith in the church and in individuals ranging from the crib to the coffin.~~

~~Definition of Courage: (SIMPLIFIED) Courage is being obedient to the LORD in the face of fear. (EXTENDED) Courage is an obedience to the Spirit that stems from your knowledge and confidence in Christ, who empowers you to act, react, or persist in the face of fear.~~

~~There is a difference between cultural and biblical courage. We are operating out of the power of the Spirit as a byproduct of faith and fearing the LORD.~~

~~Catchphrase: Fear is the birthplace of courage, but courage is the death of fear. As courage increases, fear decreases.~~

~~Positions of Courage:~~

~~Offensive/Act—Confrontational~~

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**Why is Courage necessary in the face of fear** for you, your home, our church, our world?

Fear is not a bad thing. It is not wrong to be afraid. Its what you do with fear that matters... Fear comes from 2 sources.

Fear from the Enemy and Fear from the Father Fear is Unavoidable, What you do with it is optional

Respond (Instinctive, Emotional) vs React (Pre-Mediated, Logical) (More on fear, in the next two weeks)

Fear is Unavoidable, What you do with it is optional

Respond (Instinctive, Emotional) vs React (Pre-Mediated, Logical)

Scary things are all around us... they come in different shapes and styles, Forms and faces...

Sometimes they are rational (Understandable), sometimes they make no sense. Some are visible and some are not.

Dealing with Scary things is unavoidable.

**What you fear, you will follow!**

How do I respond? **How do I Act, React and Persist in the face of Fear?**

**Freeze, Fight, Flight** – Offensive, Defensive, Fortification

Beauty and Ugly, Life and Death, Blessing and Curse, Good and Evil – Choice: **Where does fear come from anyway**

**Courage at times can be standing up... bowing down**

Speak out, shut up

Saying Yes, Saying No

Running Towards, Running Away

Holding on... Letting Go

[America's Top 10 Fears: The 2021 American Fear Index \(safehome.org\)](https://www.safehome.org/)

"Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear - not absence of fear."

— Mark Twain

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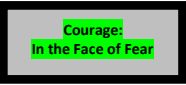
— Teddy Roosevelt

"Courage is not simply one of the virtues but the form of every virtue at the testing point, which means at the point of highest reality."

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**Campaign** – Help you bring Holy Habits in your Home. *Crib to Coffin; Womb to Tomb* **Courage Pics** Lion Names

All of us... at some point in our life have been afraid and will be afraid of something....

Some of us are in a state of fear now... It's not wrong to be afraid... Fear is a human emotion... Fear is inevitable.

There will be things and should be things in life that you fear... **Healthy Fear... but by Contrast... there is also an unhealthy fear**

Since fear is a human emotion... and Fear is inevitable...

it must be what we do with it.. how we react or respond to fear that determines its health



Review Last Wk – **Where Fear come from** Fear since beginning. Fear is not a bad thing. It is not wrong to be afraid.

Its what you do with fear that matters... Fear comes from 1 source; 2 springs – 2 results. Fear from the Enemy and Fear from the Father

Contrasting Vrs.. \*365... **Do not be afraid... Fear the Lord** E20.20 Holy Fear 2x **Gen31 fear of his father isaac** and an Unholy Fear...

Fear has a Spiritual source, with a physical presence... Fear is Unavoidable, What you do with it is optional

Sometimes that spiritual source is from the father... other times its from enemy... but I believe source of fear is spiritual in nature...

Centered around Israel – **God's Chosen People** \*Clarify what was meant by Israel last week

Israel physically has been in the center of global conflict and attempted eradication by other nations... they will continue to be

As a nation, they are a physical representation of the spiritual war between good and evil... they are his treasure...

Through them, Lords Name, Word and Savior was brought into the world so that we can be grafted into his family **Eph2.11-22**

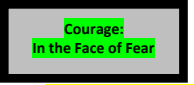
**Fear is the Birthplace of Courage....** Fireman, Police Officers, Military,

*Person of Integrity who stands for righteousness... opposing Wickedness... doesn't laugh when everyone else is... or stands up when everyone else is bowing down... or the person who bows down in humility... when everyone around is standing in pride and arrogance in other words... the person who stands alone... in the face of fear... to them... its just another day in the office...*

It is commonly known that fear produces 1 of 3 responses... **Fight, Flight or Freeze,** – Offensive, Defensive, Fortification Responses

**Reaction** Def - (Instinctive, Emotional, No Training) vs **Responses** Off (Pre-Mediated, Logical, Trained Professional Another day in the office) **Resilience**

**What does fear produce in me?** **1. Where do I turn in the face of Fear?** **Ps 56.3,4** **Discussion** \*\*\*\*Veggietales...



**Fear Quotes** : Scary things are all around us... Unavoidable... come in different shapes and styles, Forms and faces...

Sometimes they are rational (Understandable), sometimes they make no sense. Some are visible and some are not.

**We follow what we fear .. 2. What has my attention?**

**\*\*\*You should never force someone to face their fear, just be ready to help them face when they are forced to – Usually cause more damage**

**Deut 31 Js1.1-9; Js10.25; 17.13;**

Chapter 1

V1-9: 3x Be Strong and Couragous – Lord to Joshua V10-19: 1x Be Strong and Couragous – Joshua to the People

**How many times do I need to be reminded?**

Chapter 2: Spies to Jericho

V9: we are all afraid of you...

**is what (Who) I am afraid of, more afraid of me?**

How diff. would my life be, knowing that the very thing I am afraid of, is actually more afraid of me?

Chapter 3,4: Crossing Jordan

V24: Fear the Lord forever

**Do I fear the Lord more than anything else?**

Chapter 5: Enemies afraid, Circumcision, Angel of the Lord

Chapter 6: Jericho

Chapter 7: AI and Achan

Read V4-13:

**When is it okay to overreact to fear?**

Chapter 8: AI Falls

Read V1: **How many times do I need to be reminded?**

Chapter 10: AI Falls

Read V25: **What is the best way to help others overcome their fear?**

**Face your fear**

**Identify:** Say it out loud... Keep asking why...

**Walk around it:**

**Isolate:** Look past all the compound fears... Dig down to the root and deal with the main fear

**Surround it:**

**Triangulate** my Fear with His Presence... His Word... His Community

Put Unhealthy Fear to death; Turn your Fear over to the Lord... Multilayered application... two for one...

Literally Hand your fear of to him –

Evaluate... what you are more afraid of... Him or stated root fear...

1<sup>st</sup> Step in developing a response to fear so that you will not reaction

**Put it to death**

**Fear is the birthplace of Courage... Courage is the Death of Fear**



*Discuss three or four examples of healthy and unhealthy fears.*

*What are your thoughts about the difference between reactions and responses to fear?*

*How do you feel about Fear being the Birthplace of Courage?*

*Look up some verses about fear and write down some of your favorite ones.*

**"We can easily forgive a child who is afraid of the dark; the real tragedy of life is when men are afraid of the light." Plato**

**"It is not death that a man should fear, but he should fear never beginning to live." Marcus Aurelius, Meditations**

**"The cave you fear to enter, holds the treasure you seek" Joseph Campbell – Hero with a Thousand Faces – George Lucas' Inspiration**

**"Nothing to fear, but fear itself" – Franklin Roosevelt**

*"First of all, let me assert my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is fear itself*

*nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror which paralyzes needed efforts to convert retreat into advance."*

**"Do one thing every day that scares you." Wife Eleanor Roosevelt**

**"I'm intimidated by the fear of being average." Taylor Swift**

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**Campaign** – Help you bring Holy Habits in your Home. *Crib to Coffin; Womb to Tomb*

Review – Fear is Spiritual in Nature... Natural to be afraid.... All of us are... Healthy Fear and Unhealthy fear

E20.20 NKJV Moses said... Do not fear; for God is come to prove you... and that his fear may be before your faces, that ye sin not

Fear that is Cowering and Fear that is Cautious (**reverence**) – Remember the Gun Illustration **We follow what we Fear**

Its what we do with fear that matters... are we able to move from a reaction to fear to a response to fear... eventually a resilience

**Reaction** Def - (Instinctive, Emotional, No Training) vs **Responses** Off (Pre-Mediated, Logical, Trained Professional Another day in the office) **Resilience**

Joshua and the Israelites Conquest **J1.9 Be Strong and Courageous** Amalek **Ex 17.8-16, Heshbon and Bashan D2.26-37; D3.1-11, 31.6**

**Bashan** – Og *Reversing Hermon Footnotes - Dr. Michael Heiser (drmsh.com)* *Bedsizes-modern King Size bed 14x6* *Not physical but spiritual ref Murdock*

Identify, Isolate, Surround, Kill: The OT Israel serves as a physical example and reference for the NT Church in the Spiritual Realm

Through the same spirit that empowered them to defeat evil in their world, we have been given a divine spirit to demolish evil in ours...

**NOT UNTIL THE SPIRIT OF EVIL (SIN) HAS BEEN CRUXIFIED IN US!...**

This is where courage is born... **Fear is the birthplace of Courage... and Courage is the Death of Fear**

Fireman, Police Officers, Military

**Stickers**

Here is the question for today though... **What is courage?** How do you define it? **Discussion**

**Courage Quotes:**

**Who is the Most Courageous Person you know and why?**

**Mt27.46; Mk15.34 Hab 1.13**

**Read Ps 22**

**Courage Definitions**

**Cor – Heart Latin**

COURAGE, *noun* [Latin , the heart.] Bravery; intrepidity; that quality of mind which enables men to encounter danger and difficulties with firmness, or without fear or depression of spirits; valor; boldness; resolution. It is a constituent part of fortitude; but fortitude implies patience to bear continued suffering.

COURAGE that grows from constitution, often forsakes a man when he has occasion for it; *courage* which arises from a sense of duty, acts in a uniform manner.

*There is a difference between cultural and biblical courage.*

*We are operating out of the power of the Spirit as a byproduct of faith and fearing the LORD.*

**Ps 31.5 into your hands I committ my spirit**

**Last two verses... Love the Lord... all you... his saints! The Lord protects those who are loyal to him... and harshly punishes the arrogant Be strong and let your heart take courage all of you who are waiting for the Lord**

**Definition of Courage: (EXTENDED) Courage is an obedience to the Spirit that stems from your knowledge and confidence in Christ, who empowers you to act, react, or persist in the face of fear.**

**(SIMPLIFIED) Courage is being obedient to the LORD in the face of fear.**

**Courage will look different for everyone**

**What does courage look like?**

*Stand Up/Bow Down*

*Speak Out/Shut Up*

*Charge/Retreat*

*Say Yes/No*

*Hold On/Let Go*

*Step Out/Stay Put*

**Courage Looks different for everyone based on their circumstances... **Courage is Personal****

**What does courage look like for you?**

**Courage is being ready**



**Write out a Definition of Courage**

Keep Nailing my Fear (Sin) to the Cross (Not once and done)

Face my Fear Alone

Even when others say they will – Peter

Even when they really want to and Bail

**Remembering... I am not alone even when I feel great pain and isolation...**

Train for Courage: Develop, Share, Practice Attack

Shout Scripture in Specific Situations

Keep my focus: on Christ and on the End

*How would you define courage?*

*Who is the most courageous person you've know? Please describe!*

*Where do you see the need for courage in your own life?*

*What advice would you give to someone desiring to be more courageous?*

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— Plato

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— Nelson Mandela

**"Courage is being scared to death, but saddling up anyway"**

The Duke – John Wayne, True Grit 1969

**Deuteronomy 31:6** "Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the LORD thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee."

**Joshua 1:7-9** "Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest. This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

**1 Chronicles 28:20** "And David said to Solomon his son, Be strong and of good courage, and do it: fear not, nor be dismayed: for the LORD God, even my God, will be with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee, until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD."

**Psalms 31:24** "Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the LORD."

**Isaiah 41:10-13** "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. Behold, all they that were incensed against thee shall be ashamed and confounded: they shall be as nothing; and they that strive with thee shall perish. Thou shalt seek them, and shalt not find them, even them that contended with thee: they that war against thee shall be as nothing, and as a thing of nought. For I the LORD thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee."

**1 Corinthians 15:58** "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

**1 Corinthians 16:13** "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong."

**Ephesians 6:10** "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might."

**Psalms 23:4** "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will [fear](#) no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

**Psalms 27:1** "The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

**Psalms 56:3-4** "What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee. In God I will praise his word, in God I have put my trust; I will not fear what flesh can do unto me."

**Isaiah 54:4** "Fear not; for thou shalt not be ashamed: neither be thou confounded; for thou shalt not be put to shame: for thou shalt forget the shame of thy youth, and shalt not remember the reproach of thy widowhood any more."

**Matthew 10:28** "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

**2 Timothy 1:7** "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

**Hebrews 13:5-6** "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

**1 Peter 3:14-16** "But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled; But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear: Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ."

**1 John 4:18** "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love."

**John 14:27** "[Peace](#) I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

**Romans 8:15** "For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father."

**Philippians 1:12-14** "But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel; So that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace, and in all other places; And many of the brethren in the Lord, waxing confident by my bonds, are much more bold to speak the word without fear."

Uncle – Submission Games

Courage:  
In the Face of Fear:  
Bow

I had fallen on my face – I was there on purpose. Noone was around. This is the first time I am talking about publically  
Most difficult Challenge I had faced in ministry... Slander, Betrayal, Abuse, Accusations, Trials, Temptations...  
This was diff... Testing... Confronting Sin. Going to hurt... Hurt like hell!... still does Lit, brought me to my knees...

Series Review – where fear comes from, how to interface and what does Courage look like.

Last week, Courage is embodied in the life of Christ...

This week, we are going to transition and start looking at biblical examples of courage. Men and woman who faced fear head on...

Fear is the birthplace of Courage... and Courage is the Death of Fear

Cor – Heart Latin

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(SIMPLIFIED) Courage is being obedient to the LORD in the face of fear.

Courage will look different for everyone

No more significant position of courage than that of Bowing...

G18.2: Three Visitors; G41.42,43 Joseph promoted; Ex20.4-5 Ten Command 2 Chron6.13 Solomon’s Prayer of Dedication for Temple;

Advantages Bowing slows us down Shows Reverence Symbolizes Surrender

<https://guideposts.org/prayer/how-to-pray/why-bowing-is-an-essential-part-of-prayer-life/>

AW Tozer. The Goal of every Christian should be to live in a state of unbroken worship!

What brings me to my knees?

Discussion

Courage:  
In the Face of Fear:  
Bow

Ps5.7; 95.6; 138.2;

Daniel and the Lions Den (586-536)

Dan6.1-10

Timeline Cards

120 Satraps, 3 High Officials, Daniel was distinguished b/c of his excellent spirit (V3)

D6.10 When Daniel knew the Document had been signed, he went to his house where he had windows in the upper chamber open towards Jerusalem. He got down on his knees 3x a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God... as he had done previously.

How often am I there?

Can I bow when people are watching?

Daniel Dies Josephus [Josephus - Wikipedia](#) – Possible Daniel dies by Haman’s Gallos’ (473) – Es3.1-15 [Daniel \(biblical figure\) - Wikipedia](#)

Es3.1 King Ahasuerus promoted Haman (Magnificent), the Agagite...

Saul and the Amalekites 1Sam15.1-31 \*24-27 Led to future issues for David and Israel 1 Sam 30 \*\*\*Past week, Netanyahu referenced this story\*\*\*

King of the Amalekites Ex17.8-16 (1400)

Ex17.16 The Lord will have war with Amalek from Generation to Generation!

Destroy Everything/ Everyone Shows Kindness to Kenites v7,8 Listened to the People

v27 Tears Corner of Robe from Samuel

Do I only bow when people are watching?



David and Saul 1Sam.24.1-11

1S24.8,11 David bowed... See the corner of the robe in your hand!

Am I able to bow, even if it means my life

Comparing Attitudes - 1S15.23 vs Ps51.17; Jm4.10;

Attitude of Submission – Have I submitted, surrendered to Him?

Have I bowed down? Have I called Uncle?

Fall on my Face sometime today: Literally and Spiritually Cry Uncle... Submit, Surrender today

Give Thanks when I am Terrified (Daniel)

Pray Intentionally, (3x Day)

Serve those hell bent of my destruction

Wage War on my Generational Enemy

Be Willing to Face Death



What are your thoughts about bowing down in worship?

How is there strength in weakness?

How do you think bowing down before the Lord would change you?

Describe a time you were brought to your knees.

Fear is Spiritual in Nature... Natural to be afraid.... All of us are... Healthy Fear and Unhealthy fear

E20.20 NKJV Moses said... Do not fear; for God is come to prove you... and that his fear may be before your faces, that ye sin not

Fear that is Cowering and Fear that is Cautious (**reverence**) – Remember the Gun Illustration **We follow what we Fear**

Its what we do with fear that matters... are we able to move from a reaction to fear to a response to fear... eventually a resilience

**Reaction** Def - (Instinctive, Emotional, No Training) vs **Responses** Off (Pre-Mediated, Logical, Trained Professional Another day in the office) **Resilience**

Joshua and the Israelites Conquest **J1.9 Be Strong and Courageous** Amalek **Ex 17.8-16**, Heshbon and Bashan **D2.26-37; D3.1-11, 31.6**

**Bashan** – Og [Reversing Hermon Footnotes - Dr. Michael Heiser \(drms.h.com\)](#) Bedsize-modern King Size bed 14x6 Not physical but spiritual ref Murdock

Identify, Isolate, Surround, Kill: The OT Israel serves as a physical example and reference for the NT Church in the Spiritual Realm

Through the same spirit that empowered them to defeat evil in their world, we have been given a divine spirit to demolish evil in ours...

**NOT UNTIL THE SPIRIT OF EVIL (SIN) HAS BEEN CRUXIFIED IN US!...**

This is where courage is born... **Fear is the birthplace of Courage... and Courage is the Death of Fear** Fireman, Police Officers, Military **Stickers**

Iconic Moments: Galaxy 300 Scene The Patriot Rosa Parks Took a Stand my remaining Seated Tyndale

If you won't stand in the Gap Steve, who will

Courage:  
In the Face of Fear:  
Standing Up

Series Review – Campaign: Holy Habits in the Home Courage in the Face of Fear: **Distribute Resources**

To be afraid is not wrong... Fear: natural response... its what you do with fear or what fear does with you that matters

**Reaction** Def - (Instinctive, Emotional, No Training) **Responses** Off (Pre-Mediated, Logical, Trained Professional Another day in the office) **Resilience**

Fear can produce good things in us... in fact... Fear is the birthplace of Courage... and Courage is the Death of Fear

Positions of Courage: **Courage will look different for everyone** in this room at different times in your life...

There will be times where... in order to be courageous you will be called to take the position of

**Speak Out/Shut Up Charge/Retreat Say Yes/No Hold On/Let Go Step Out/Stay Put**

**Bow Down** Last week: One of the Best positions of Courage is bowing...Bow - Worship Taking a Knee... Surrendering to Christ...

Last week, I shared a personal experience where I was brought to my face in the dirt... What happened next **Stand Up...**

There are times when Standing Up is the only courageous thing you can do...

When everyone else Bows down to **Self Reliance (Baal), Sexual Perversion (Ashera), Cultural Demands and Sacrifices (Molech),**

Be like the 7000 in Israel (**1K19.18**) who refused to Bow... instead... Stand... Stand opposed

Irish Orator – Edmund Burke All that is necessary for evil to succeed, is that Good Men do Nothing!

**Ex8.20; get up early in the morning and stand in Pharaoh's way... Ex14.13; Egypt coming after Israel – Fear Not... Stand Firm... Watch... Never again**

**1S12.16 Stand Still and see this great thing that the Lord will do before your eyes... Ez22.30 who will stand in the gap**

**Ep6.10-20 Stand Firm Then What makes me stand up? Discussion**

Courage:  
In the Face of Fear:  
Standing Up

**1 Cor 15.1-11;58 Resurrection – conclusion (NIV) Stand Firm... let nothing move you... always give yourself fully to the work of the Lord...**

**Shadrach, Meshach and Abindigo (622-586-530) Dan3.1-30**

What do I expect to happen b/c I stand up?

v16- Standing Up is sometimes more powerful than speaking out

v19 - Standing Up changes Faces

v29 - Standing Up Shuts People Up

Will I still stand when it causes people to get hurt?

Neb 642; 605-562 Amel-Marduk 2 Year Belsh 556-539 – Jews Go Home! Darius the Mede ???? <hr/> Cyrus 600; 559-530 Darius 550; 522-486 *Xerxes 518; 486-465 (480 – 300) Artaxerxes 465-424 Artaxerxes II 404-359	Daniel 622-530          *Esther 491-401 Ezra 480 - 440 (458 Return) Nehemiah 473 – 403 (432 Home)
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**Hamon and Mordecia Es3.1-15**

Can I stand even when I am alone?

**Jesus and the Man at the Pool Jn5.1-17**

v3- What do you want? Has He told me stand up yet? Don't stand up unless he tells me too

v9 – now it was the sabbath Am I ready for the questions and criticisms that will come?



Story of Telemachus [Jeff Myers: The Story of Telemachus - YouTube](#)

Telemachus. By the year 404, bloody gladiatorial battles had been going on for 140 years. Honorius became Emperor of Rome.

When godly men stands, evil falls. What will it finally take for me to make a Final stand?

Figure out what matters to me and why **What do you want?**

Standing up for the Lord, means I have to stand up to Men

Stand When He tells me to

Trust Him to Handle the Heat

Firey Furnace or the Trial

Be Willing to Stand Alone

Anticipate that where I stand, might be my last

*Who, in your immediate circle, is the most likely to stand out in the crowd and why?*

*Why do some people have a more natural disposition to “stand up” than others?*

*What are the strengths and weaknesses on this position (Standing Up) of courage?*

*Discuss which position of Courage would be more difficult: Standing Up or Bowing Down*

## History on Cyrus

Aestages (A-stay-ageese)

Harpagus General

Mithradedes – Shepherd – Adopted Cyrus

10 Years Old – King and Court

Harpagus ate 13 Years Old – Son

Plot

Cyrus’s Dad dies (Weak Empire)

Cyrus is expected to pay tribute to his emporor (grandfather)

Cyrus – Piss Off (553)

Aestages Sends his General Harpagus to fight Cyrus

Cyrus Marries his Aunt (2<sup>nd</sup> wife);

Cyrus Quote: Whenever you can, act as a liberator. Freedom, Dignity, Wealth these three together constitute the greatest happiness of humanity. If you bequeath all three to your people, their love for you will never die.

Cyrus Cylinder

Logos... Word... What is the most important thing you could ever say in your lifetime? Could you say it in 5 Sentences or Less?  
What do you have to say? If you only had five Sentences left to speak... what would they be... why?

Courage:  
In the Face of Fear:  
Speak Out!

Review – 3 Minutes or Less: 3 Slides

Fear is the \_\_\_\_\_ of Courage... Courage is the \_\_\_\_\_ of Fear *Courage is being obedient to the LORD in the face of fear.*

What Fear do I need to Face today? Positions of Courage - Bow Down / Stand Up Today – Speak Out!

One of the most common Fears for people is public speaking:

Last Decade – Most studies will list the speaking in public in the top 3 fears (Loneliness, Death, Public Speaking)

**Romans 10.8;13-15** Harvest Sunday – Sign, Residence, Missions Trips, Tomorrow

Past Month – Random Closing Prayer

This Week we are going to start with the application of our sermon, rather than end it

Here is the application... **Speak Out!** Talk about the Faith that I Have...

Biblical Examples Power in Speech – Why did the Lord SAY... Let there be light... could he have thought it... snapped fingers...

**Gen1.1** Esther (**Es7.1-10**) JTB and Herod (**Mt14.1-12**) Thief on Cross (**Lk23.39-43 NAS 20**) Peter at Pentecost (**Acts 2**)

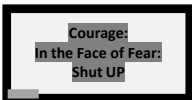
2 Minute Witness... of What has the Lord been doing in your Life? Uncle Willard's *I would like to stand up for the Lord today... Here is the Story*  
Where is the Lord Flexing in my Life How is the Lord growing my Faith?

**Steve Financial Testimony**

When has the Lord given me Daily Bread?

How have I stepped out on Faith Financially? How did the Lord Respond

**Courage Def: (EXTENDED)** Obedience to the Spirit from your knowledge/confidence in Christ, who empowers you to respond, in the face of fear.  
**(SIMPLIFIED)** *Courage is being obedient to the LORD in the face of fear.* *Courage will look different for everyone*

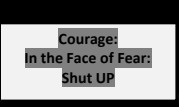


Review

Positions of Courage – Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak. Courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen. Churchill

More Quotes *Ps62.1 Pr29.11 Pr21.23 Pr17.28 Jm1.19 Col4.6 Mt12.36,37*  
*Ecc3.7* When and how is silence considered courage? (Mix Up the Church)

Discussion Need 8 Volunteers



3 or 4 Volunteers Play Charades with each side *Ex14.13-14 Rev8.1*  
*Hab2.20 Amos5.13 Lam3.26-29 Zeph1.7 Is41.1*

*Lk1.20* Zechariah and Gabriel (Force)  
 Zechariah – Abijah Elizabeth – Aaron Huge Potential for this couple. Power Couple.  
 They were considered Righteous – Good People No Children No Chance of Children Bible calls them Old  
 Zech was selected to enter the Temple (Huge Honor) Sees Gabriel Goes Home, Mary Visits, John is Born *Read Lk2.57*  
 Is my silence a reflection of my faith?

*Job 2.11-13* Job’s 3 Friends (Wisdom)  
 What motivates my silence?

*Ex14.13,14* Israelites and Egyptians (Courage)  
*V13,14* Fear Not. Stand Firm. See the Salvation of the Lord (Which HE will do for you today)  
 The Egyptians (Enemy) you see today, you will never see again. **The Lord will fight for you... all you have to do is be SILENT**  
 What am I missing out on by speaking up

*Mt27.11-14 Mk15.1-5 Lk23.1-25* Pilate and Herod Jesus and Pilate (Courage)  
 Compare to Lk 2- Jesus at the Temple amazed people with what he said... Often described as a great Teacher...  
 Knew how to answer every difficult question smelling like a rose... Here... Nothing! Nothing... Say something Jesus...  
 It will save your life Do **not respond for a full year: Kimball Story**  
*Is53.7* He was oppressed, and he was afflicted. Yet he did not open his mouth.  
 Like a lamb led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before it shearers is silent, he did not open his mouth.  
 Do I say more when I say nothing at all?



Give my concerns to Him (Quietly)

Practice Being Comfortable in Silence

Look for ways to say more by saying Less

Be Present with People

How do you think silence can be an effective position of courage?

How comfortable are you with silence?

Would you rather speak or listen? Why do you think that is?

Who is the most likely to win the “Quiet Game” of those around you?

Ex14.13-14 Fear Not! Stand Firm! See the Salvation of the Lord, which He will work for you today!

For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again! The Lord will Fight for you and you have only to be SILENT!

Hab2.20 The Lord is in His Holy Temple. Let all the Earth keep silent before him!

Amos5.13 Seek me and Live... I know how many transgressions and how great your sins are...

v13 whoever is prudent will keep silent at the time...

Lam3.26-29 It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. It is good for a man that he bear the yoke of his youth. Let Him sit alone in silence when it is laid on him... Children should be seen and not heard....

Zeph1.7 Be Silent before the Lord God... the Day of the Lord is Near!

Is41.1 Listen to me in Silence

Rev8.1 When the Lamb opened the 7<sup>th</sup> Seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour

Ecc3.7 A time to Speak and a Time to be Silent

Ps62.1 For God alone my soul waits in silence; for him comes my salvation

Pr29.11 A fool gives full vent to his spirit; but a wise man quietly hold it back

Pr21.23 Whoever keeps his mouth and his tongue keeps himself out of trouble

Pr17.28 Even a fool who keeps silent is considered wise; when he closes his lips he is deemed intelligent

Jm1.19 Let every person be quick to hear and slow to speak and slow to anger.

Col4.6 Let Your speech always be gracious and seasoned with salt, so that you might know how you ought to answer each question

Mt12.36,37 On the day of Judgement people will give an account for every careless word they speak, for by your words you will be justified and by your words you will be condemned

When I pronounce the word future,  
The first syllable already belongs to the past.

When I pronounce the word silence,  
I destroy it! Wistawa Szymborska

Never miss a good opportunity to shut up! Will Rogers

Listen to Silence. It has so much to say. Rumi

The quieter you become the more you are able to hear. Rumi

I don't think ... then you shouldn't talk said the hatter Alice in Wonderland

You gotta be careful; don't say a word to nobody about nothing anytime ever Johnny Depp

In the silence of the heart God speaks. If you face God in prayer and silence, God will speak to you. Then you will know that you are nothing. It is only when you realize your nothingness, your emptiness, that God can fill you with Himself. Souls of prayer are souls of great silence. Mother Theresa

Blank Side Humor

Silence is my favorite thing Crystal has ever said!

Ex14.13-14 Hab2.20 Amos5.13 Lam3.26-29 Zeph1.7 Is41.1 Rev8.1 Ecc3.7 Ps62.1 Pr29.11 Pr21.23 Pr17.28  
Jm1.19 Col4.6 Mt12.36,37

Dec 7, 1941 82 years ago [When, Why, and How did the US enter WW2? The Date America Joins the Party \(historycooperative.org\)](https://www.historycooperative.org/)

Sept 11, 2001 22 Years Ago Stephen's Story [Firefighter makes ultimate sacrifice on 9/11 - YouTube](#)

Courage:  
In the Face of Fear:  
Running Towards

Most recognizable Position of Courage is that of running towards danger...

Quotes

One ought never to turn one's back on a threatened danger and try to run away from it. If you do that, you will double the danger. But if you meet it promptly and without flinching, you will reduce the danger by half. Never run away from anything. Never! Churchill

I have always seen first responders as unsung heroes and very special people b/c when everyone is running away from danger, they run into it – Dwayne Johnson

Review **Fear is the Birthplace of Courage and Courage is the Death of Fear**

Top Ten Most Courageous Stories in the Bible List

**1 Sam 17.48** David and Goliath **When the philistine arose and came and drew near the battle line to meet David, David Ran quickly toward the battle line to meet the philistine** **Which way do I run when I face Danger?** **Discussion**

If David and Goliath is one of the most recognizable or perhaps even arguably the most famous story on Courage, then Benaiah is the most obscure

No Doubt David was a man of Courage... and He inspired men to be courageous... 1 Samuel 22.2

If they weren't always men of courage, how did they become men of courage?

**How do I become more courageous... Look for Opportunities to Run Towards Dangerous Things... Like Benaiah**

**2 Sam 23.20; 1 Ch11.22** Benaiah chases a lion in a pit on a snowy day

*Command of Davids Guard – 2Sam23.23;*

*Command David's Mercenary Forces – 1 Ch27.5,6*

*Had a Father who was Faithful Jehoida – Priest who crowned David at Hebron*

*Killed to Moabite Heroes – Sons of Ariel – Word Play Heb word for Lion is Aryeh – KJV Translation – Lionlike men*

*Killed an Egyptian Giant – 1Ch11.23 – 7' Tall*

*Giant came at Benaiah with a Spear... B wrestles the spear from the Giant and uses it to kill the Giant*

*Makes Solomon King – One of three Men that David trusts at the end of his life when he is dying 1 Kings1.36-2.46*

*Becomes Solomon's General after David Dies*

*Of all the stories with Benaiah – probably the one that has best story courage is a short story of courage... very little content is the one found in 2 Sam23.20 – Benaiah chases a lion in a pit on a snowy day*

So Many questions – Why chase it all... what was it hurting... why is this in the bible...

**Moments to be courageous rarely come at convenient times** Does it all have to make sense before I run towards danger?

**Who am I leaving this danger for, if I run away? Who chases the Lion if I don't?**

**Gen33.4** Esau and Jacob

**But Esau ran to meet Jacob and embraced him, Fell on His Neck and kissed him and they wept!**

**Am I able to run towards those who have wronged me?**

**1Cor9.24-27** Paul and the Race of Faith

Certain do and don'ts of faith. Paul is explaining his personal position on these things.

Meat sacrificed to idols. Working as a Tentmaker, not a full time apostle. Paul compared to the rest of the Apostles.

I don't want anything physical to get in the way of my goal... of my finish line...

I do not want something as insignificant as temporal pursuits or temporal prizes to be his motivation....

Otherwise he may lose focus on who he is meant to be and lose the race he has been given to run due to a disqualification...

**Vr26,27 I do not run aimlessly... I discipline my body and keep it under control (my body is serves me, not the other way around)**

**So that after I preach, I might not be disqualified. Am I running with the right motivation?**

**Jn20.3,4** John Ran towards the Tomb.

**H10.39 we are not of those who shrink back (Retreat)... and are destroyed... but we are people of faith...**

**H11 Faith chapter**

**H12.1 since we are surrounded by all of these heroes of faith... cloud of witnesses,**

**let us lay aside the weight, the sin that clings so closely to us... let us run with endurance the race set out for us**

**Do I have the Endurance to keep running?**

**Check My Motivation and Direction**

**Run Towards the Tomb**

**Stay Focused on the Author and Trailblazer** (Spend unique, special, time with Christ – Stop what I am doing this week and spend time with Him)

**Find others who are running in the same direction** (David, Benaiah)

**Keep Running:** Even when I think I am running Alone, Don't Stop... it will help Recruit others



*What are the top three stories of courage in the Bible and why?*

*Who is someone that you admire for their ability to run towards danger and why?*

*What do you think keeps people from running towards their fear?*

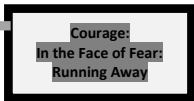
*What is something or someone that you've run away from?*

This blindside assault came in the early morning of December 7, 1941 when 353 Japanese Imperial bombers flew over the Hawaii naval base and dumped their payloads full of destruction and death. They killed 2,400 Americans, wounding 1,200 more; sunk four battleships, damaged two others, and wrecked countless other ships and planes stationed at the base. The vast majority of the U.S. sailors killed at Pearl Harbor were junior enlisted personnel. At the time of the attack, nine civilian aircraft were flying in the vicinity of Pearl Harbor. Of these, three were shot down.



Know when to walk away... Know when to Run Bow Down, Stand Up Speak Out, Shut Up Run Towards – Run Away

Having the Courage to Admit that you can't, shouldn't or even will not...



Review Fear is the Birthplace of Courage and Courage is the Death of Fear

Last Week – we started with Shepherd Boy David Running towards the proven, Military Champion and Giant Goliath

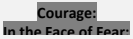
Dan Dickey – Sometimes Courage isn't about running towards the danger its about running away from it... **1S18.9 Saul eyed David**

David and Jonathan

Read **1S20.35-42**

How do I know when to run away?

Discussion



Light the Gasoline on Fire

**Mt2.13** Joseph and Mary

Now when they had departed (People study the Stars from the East) an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream...

Rise, Take the child and his mother... FLEE to Egypt and remain there until I tell you... Herod is coming to kill the Child

He rose and took the child and his mother by night

Urgency! How fast can I run?

**Gen39.1-23** Joseph and Potiphar's wife

V7 Lie with me! V8 but he refused and said to his masters wife...

Potiphar has trusted me with everything in his house. Everything... Noone is above me

He trusts me with everything... and everyone... including you... His wife

How could I do that and sin against the Lord?

Couple of things here! Reponse to Sin as it relates to the required position of Courage and Sexual Immorality

1) Reponse to Sin as it relates to the required position of Courage

Don't get me wrong...

I am happy that Jo was ready with this response... he was/is man of integrity... but come on Jo, shut your hole...

Am I wasting my breath Talking, when I need to use it for running?

As the situation progresses... no amount of talking is going to save him... with the wife or the boss...

In the rest of the chapter, Joe doesn't say anything else...

2) Sexual Immorality

Our Spiritual condition is connected to our sexual integrity...

Our Spiritual condition is intimately married to our sexual integrity.

Another way to say it... Flee from Sexual Immorality... it affects us differently **1 Cor 6.18**

Sometimes you run away, not out of fear, but of faith

Not optional, but biblical.

If Christ' Truth is my authority, then listen... I trust... I respond to it

arrows

No Debate, No Dialogue, No Discussion, Just DO IT!

All the 613 Laws of Torah may be broken in order to save a life... except 3 things... Idolatry, Murder, Sexual Immorality

**1 Cor 6.18 1Cor10.14 1Tim6.11 2Tim2.22**

You may be wondering... I have already messed up...

the only thing I've gotten out of this is know at least I know why my spiritual condition is rotten...

Let me say a couple of things to you... just you and me here...

A) You may not be able to change your past, but you can change your future by changing your heading

Turn around and run away from sin and run to the son... he is a lot closer than you think...

B) Running away from sexual immorality will not solve some of the residual problems,

but it will give you a fresh start/ perspective

This is what the Bible calls Repentance...

Can start anytime... it just Starts with One Step... Break the relationship and source of the brokenness...

Confess it to someone who you can trust...

Who am I close enough to, to take hold of their hand until you have the strength to run away?

**Gen19.14-26** Lot and His Family

V16 But Lot hesitated (Lingered... doubted – Mt28.17) He Froze!

So the men seized Lot's family by the hand... the Lord being merciful to him... brought the family outside the city

be close enough to the Lord, that I can at least hold on to the Lords Hand...

Hold on Tight and DON'T LOOK BACK

Am I close enough to take a hold of HIS Hand?



Stop playing with matches! (Especially when there is gasoline) Pass Out Matches!

Make a list of things to ALWAYS run away from

Do it before I get there!

Spend so much time with the Lord that I dream about him

Save my breath for the run not the talk

Be that awkward person when a stupid sexual joke happens to walk away

Stand Close enough to the Spirit and His People to grab their hands

Warn Those who will Listen

*How do you know when it's the right time to run away from something or someone?*

*What are some good indicators in deciding that it's the right time to run?*

*As a follower of Christ, do you think running away from someone else is ever permanent?*

*What are some examples in the Bible where running away is considered courageous?*

1 Sam 18

Jonathan and David become one in spirit  
Jealousy Begins b/c of Song  
Saul hurls Spear at David 2x  
David Marries Michal (200 Foreskins)

1 Sam 19

Jonathan begins to think... Dad might not like you David... Let me check on something  
In a Field... Boy that David... I am really glad he helped us w/ Goliath... aren't you... Yea So what was all that.... "Lets kill david talk"  
*V6 – as surely as the Lord lives... David shall not be put to death*  
Philistine Battle, David is victorious... Party back at the palace... David playing the Harp... Dodging more spears... I'm Out!  
Hidden Immunity Idol Trick  
Revival at Naioth with Samuel  
Saul sends 3 envoys of messengers  
Then Finally goes himself... Ends up Naked

1 Sam 20

Jonathan to David – Where'd you go buddy... You're dad hates me... I think you're paranoid...  
I think you're too close to the situation... You're dad's not telling you something...  
Lets put this to the test  
3 days at the beginning of the new moon... I won't show up and lets see what happens... if dad is cool w/ you being gone...  
will that prove that everything is good...  
if you're dad's not cool with my absence will that prove everything is not...  
Sounds good.... Then what...  
Arrows...  
Jonathan starts to dodge spears now...

Gandolf – You Shall Not Pass... Faces Evil... Fly. You Fools.

### **Sexual Immorality**

Sexual Immorality is destroying us as a people... Wrecking Homes, Families, Marriages, Men and Women

Pornography leads to self stimulation: isolation... teaches us to Focus on ourself as the individual & not the other person

Sex is a gift from the Lord for married couples.

I believe the climax of sexual pleasure that is to be celebrated and cherished in holy matrimony is intended to be a small...  
very very small expression of what heaven will be like...

Think about this... Imagine the best sex in the world...

In the most holy of ways b/t a Husband and Wife who are literally and metaphorically  
naked and unashamed with each others bodies focusing on the other person's pleasure and not their own...  
Suddenly I have everyone's attention!

Imagine that moment being a small example of what it will be like to be the Lord....

Do you think... maybe... just maybe there's a chance our enemy... the enemy of the Lord's people...

Would possibly target this one gift and delute it, delineate it... damage it with corruption above all other gifts...

There are too **many resources** in today's world that discuss the neurological, biological, psychological, and relational damage that sexual immorality causes for individuals and families...

not to mention the spiritual affects that everyone in the room has experienced b/c of the sin of sexual immorality...

if you've heard me say this once, you've heard me say this 1000 times....

Our **Spiritual condition is connected to our sexual integrity...** so let me say it another way...

Our Spiritual condition is intimately married to our sexual integrity.

Here is another way to say it... **Flee from Sexual Immorality... it affects us differently 1 Cor 6.18**

[The Most Up-to-Date Pornography Statistics \(covenanteyes.com\)](http://covenanteyes.com)

[Conquer Series on SoulRefiner](#)

[Screen Accountability™ | Covenant Eyes](#)

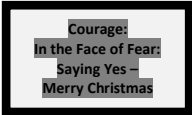
Merry Christmas

When Anticipation is at its highest... When everything is suppose to be perfect... Joy, excitement, energy, peace...  
Something good is going to happen

*Gal 4.4 When THE FULLNESS OF TIME HAD COME, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law... born under the curse*

*Rm5.6 While we were still weak, AT THE RIGHT TIME, Christ died for the ungodly*

Mission Critical – This is the moment that all of history has been pointing to...



For the past few years, I have often wondered what that moment was like...

*Eph 1.4 Before the Foundations of the World was laid, He Chose us to be sons and daughters...* **HOLY AND BLAMELESS**

What happens... right before the execution of the plan...

Father – Son – Spirit : You sure about this... Are you sure Son?

Anticipation, Excitement, Energy, Joy, Peace is only for one side of the story... Those implementing... Not so much...

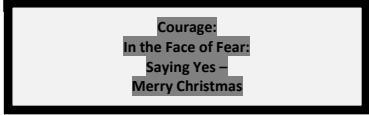
Worry, Fear, Disappointment, Pain, Anxiety,

Are you sure Son? For Jesus to come to here to us, he would have to leave there with him (Father)

Are you sure Son? Was Leaving something Stable to go to another stable...

Are you sure Son? His yes to us, was a no to where he was...

So... Are you sure Son? Yes...



Review

Wk 1-3: Courage is being obedient to the Lord in the Face of Fear

Fear is the Birthplace of Courage and Courage is the Death of Fear

Positions of Courage

Bow Down, Stand Up Speak Out, Shut Up Run Towards – Run Away **Fight for Love** Today – **Saying No**

*Js1.9... have I not commanded you, be strong and courageous.*

*How do I know when saying no is position of courage or something else?* *Selfishness, Rebellion, Cowardice?* **Discussion**

From the Stable to Table

2 Corinthians 1.8

*We were so utterly burdened beyond our strength... that we despaired of life itself*

Saying Yes to Christ is not Easy...

What about all that come to me... all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest stuff in **Mt 11.28-30..**

Didn't Jesus himself say... Take my yoke upon you and learn from me.

For I am gentle and humble in heart and we'll find rest for our souls... he also said...

My yoke is easy (**Perfect Fit**) (**Sweet Spot**) (**Natural**) and burden is light (**Freedom**) (**Agility**) (**2x -2C4.17**)...

2 Corinthians 1.8

*We were so utterly burdened beyond our strength... that we despaired of life itself*

Saying Yes to Christ is

He knew what he had said yes to. Said no to sin, b/c he had said yes to us... **Do I know what/ who I have said yes to?**

*Rom6.1-4* Now, we can say No to Sin too

*V1,2 What shall we say then... continue in sin so that grace may increase... By NO MEANS!*

What / who have I said yes to? Have I said no to Sin? Am I saying No to sin?

*Identify why I say no  
Say No to the World  
Figure Out who my King is  
Say no to sin*

**Steve**

*Listen to what my Fear is saying to me*

*Fear usually will help me find my answer – If I am afraid of what will happen... Reaction vs Response*

*Say no to what the world is saying said yes to*

*Say Yes to Him and the things he has asked me to do*

*Figure out what I have said yes to!*

***Who around your table or discussion would be the most reluctant to preach with Steve?***

***Why do you think saying no takes courage for some and is automatic for others?***

***Who has said no in the Bible?***

***Is there any reason you would tell the Lord no?***

Courage:  
In the Face of Fear:  
Saying Yes – Merry Christmas

3 little letters... one simple word... Are you sure you want to do this? – Yes... Merry Christmas  
Christmas... a cultural celebration of the birth, arrival of the Christ... A time filled with layers of emotions...  
The icon is A GIFT Bring out a Christmas Gift – This Gift represents several things... Joy, excitement, energy, peace...

BEHIND it all is anticipation... Anticipation is at its highest... the build up... the preparation... Something good is going to happen...

*Gal 4.4 When THE FULLNESS OF TIME HAD COME, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law... born under the curse*

*Rm5.6 While we were still weak, AT THE RIGHT TIME, Christ died for the ungodly*

Mission Critical – This is the moment that all of history has been pointing to...

*One World Government under Roman Rule, One unifying Language, Transportation routes established,  
Civilization was at its peak, Education was celebrated, Libraries, Religious Institution had reached full corruption,  
Hopelessness was pervasive. Fear was common... but as we've learned the past 2 months or so...*

Where there is fear... there is courage Series Review – Fear is the Birthplace of Courage; Courage is the Death of Fear

It was a perfect plan with the perfect time for the perfect gift to finally be delivered

For the past few years, I have often wondered what that moment was like...

*Eph 1.4 Before the Foundations of the World was laid, He Chose us to be sons and daughters... HOLY AND BLAMELESS*

You know... What happens... right before the execution of the plan... Right before everything that would be opened, get opened...

**Father – Son – Spirit : You sure about this... Are you sure Son?**

Anticipation, Excitement, Energy, Joy, Peace is only for one side of the story... Those implementing... Not so much...

Worry, Fear, Disappointment, Pain, Anxiety,

Are you sure Son? For Jesus to come to here to us, he would have to leave there with him (Father)

Are you sure Son? Was Leaving something Stable to go to another stable... not very stable at all...

Are you sure Son? His yes to us, was saying no to where he was...

So... Are you sure Son? Yes...

**Jesus Said Yes** Not everyone will get it? Some - not understand, question, Criticize, Reject...

So... Who will say yes to him?

Mary Will

**Lk1.38 Let it be done to me according to your word**

Mary was the First to Say Yes to Jesus

Everything was Perfect

**Jesus left His Stable Home  
To Arrive in the Stable**

Some of you here are in some of these spots...

1<sup>st</sup> – Super Glad you are here... you could have chosen to stay home... you could have said yes to many other things...

but you said yes to coming today... so first... really glad you did... but at the end of the day... still questions, concerns, criticisms

Maybe you've sworn religion / church / Jesus off

It's a christmas miracle you're here!

2<sup>nd</sup> – all I am going to do is just ask you to consider four things real quick... ..

A) Did Jesus actually existed... (Even Bart Ehrman believes Jesus existed)

**QR - Washington Post Article**

**QR – Comparing Jesus to Caesar**

[Sources for Caesar and Jesus Compared \(thegospelcoalition.org\)](http://Sources for Caesar and Jesus Compared (thegospelcoalition.org))

B) Good teacher or a bad teacher, based on what you know...

*Love each other, pray for your enemies, Forgive those who trespass against you, don't look lustfully at people, turn the other cheek stuff... good or bad teacher*

*Of course... The most significant thing he said as a teacher – I and the Father are one... if you want to know Him... you have to know me Jn5.18... not Jn3.16*

C) Influence after just 3 years

*How does a man, a good teacher, who taught he was God, get all this attention in all of history (BeG. of time to the end of time) in just 3 years,  
if he is not who he said he was? Just something to think about...*

D) Then there is the whole **cross** and **empty tomb** bit... Come back to how it happened...

Are you sure son... you want to go through all of this... Yes... Yes... Yes... Of Course... **Jesus Said Yes to us...**

You know why – for everyone... for me... for you... he came for you... he died for you ... he defeated death for you...

To live... **that's why he said yes... so that we can say yes too** **Jesus said yes to us, so that we might say yes to him**

His life may have started with a stable, but it finished with a table... Fellowship... Relationship...

He wants to give you and me and anyone and everyone... a chance at life again... and another chance; another chance

He wants to dine with us here... Shares His Table with us... sharing his ministry with us...

More than that... he wants to empower you with his spirit to help others who are blind, deaf and lame... see, hear, and move

**Have You said Yes to Him, like he has said yes to you?** *May have questions, thoughts, fears...*

Don't wait until you don't have any more questions... Hopefully You'll always have em,

**His story starts with a Stable;  
And finishes with a Table**

Man  
Teacher  
Prophet  
Miracle  
Worker  
A God  
The God

**Sounds good - right**

Anticipation, Excitement, Energy, Joy,  
Peace is only for one side of the story...

**Have You said Yes to Him, like he has said yes to you?**

Before you say yes... Know *Its Personal and Painful... Demanding / Dangerous...*

**Communion**

**2 Cor1.8 We were so utterly burdened beyond our strength... that we despaired of life itself**

Worry, Fear, Disappointment, Pain, Anxiety, Saying Yes to Christ is not going to be Easy...

*What about all that come to me... all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest stuff in Mt 11.28-30..*

*Didn't Jesus himself say... Take my yoke upon you and learn from me. For I am gentle and humble in heart and we'll find rest for our souls...*

*he also said....*

*My yoke is easy (Perfect Fit) (Sweet Spot) (Natural) and burden is light (Freedom) (Agility) (2x -2C4.17)...*

**2 Corinthians 4.1,3 We have this ministry by the mercy of God... so we do not loose heart... loose courage**

**We know that not everyone will believe... they are blinded by darkness Our Gospel is Jesus Christ as Lord...**

**Let Light Shine out of darkness...**

**2 Cor 4.7-12, So we do not loose heart... loose courage**

**2 Cor 4.16-18 Light (Mt11.30)**

**2 Corinthians 5.6-9 We are always of good courage... Yes, we are of good courage...**

**We would rather be away from the Body and home with Him... But until then... we make it our aim to please him...**

**Before you say Yes to the Lord... Know it will be difficult... There will be times when you are disoriented, confused, even afraid...**

**And in those times... remember... Fear is where and when Courage is Born... so keep saying Yes to Him... for Him...**

A) Lets Start with a simple one... **do you believe Jesus actually existed...** I mean in the historical since...  
was there a man, named Jesus in the official birth record that Caesar Augustus ordered to be counted  
(**Even Bart Ehrman believes Jesus existed**) *QR - Washington Post Article*

B) If he did exist, would you consider him a **good teacher or a bad teacher**, based on what you know...  
*Love each other, pray for your enemies, Forgive those who trespass against you, don't look lustfully at people, turn the other cheek stuff... **good or bad teacher**  
Of course.... The most significant thing he said as a teacher – **I and the Father are one... if you want to know Him... you have to know me Jn5.18... not Jn3.16***

C) Being a teacher is one thing, but a prophet (fulfilling all the prophecies one thing) and Miracle worker completely diff. ball game  
These are big deals... and I really do want you to put that under the microscope... but for the time being...  
I want you to consider something else for me... Relatively speaking... we know less about his life than we know about his life  
Jesus lived 33 years...  
**How does a man, who was a good teacher, who said he was in fact God, get all this attention in all of history  
(Beginning of time to the end of time) in just 3 years... ?** Just something to think about...

*From that Stable to the Table*

D) Then there is the whole **cross and empty tomb** bit... that we have to deal with...  
So when he was asked are you sure you want to open this box...  
His Answer was Yes.... Yes... Yes... Of Course... **Jesus Said Yes for us...** You know why – for everyone...me/ you...  
he came for you... he died for you ... he defeated death for you... To live... ***that's why he said yes... so that we can say yes too***

It was a time perfectly suited for the introduction of the [gospel](#). The whole civilized earth was at length governed by one master ([Daniel 2:40](#)). There was nothing to prevent the preacher of a new faith going from city to city and country to country. The princes and priests of the non-Jewish world had been weighed in the balances and found lacking. Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Persia, Greece, and Rome had all successively proven that "the world through its wisdom did not know God" ([1 Corinthians 1:21](#)). Even with all their mighty conquerors, poets, historians, architects, and philosophers, the kingdoms of the world were full of dark [idolatry](#). It was, indeed, "due time" for God to interpose from heaven and send down an almighty Savior. It was "due time" for Christ to be born ([Romans 5:6](#)).

## **5 compelling pieces of evidence that support the divine life of Jesus Christ - Washington Times**

Recently, I caught up with [Jim Warner Wallace](#), a former cold-case detective and renowned Christian case-maker, to gain insight into the enduring appeal of [Jesus](#) by utilizing some of his investigative skills to explore the historical and scientific evidence for the existence and divinity of [Jesus](#).

### **1. The Credibility of the Canonical Gospels**

The four gospels ([Matthew](#), [Mark](#), [Luke](#), and [John](#)) provide primary sources for understanding [Jesus](#)' life and teachings. The texts were written by eyewitnesses or people who had access to eyewitness accounts, offering detailed depictions of [Jesus](#)' life, including His crucifixion and resurrection. Centuries of scrutiny by scholars support the historical accuracy of the gospels, making them a valuable historical foundation for the Christian faith and providing compelling evidence of [Jesus](#)' existence.

By the fourth century, the bishop of Caesarea and great church historian Eusebius (A.D. 270-340) articulated the canon of most of the 27 books in his "Church History." However, it was [Athanasius](#) (bishop of Alexandria) who wrote in "Festal Letter" (A.D. 367), the 27 canonical books that make up the New Testament today. By the time of the Synod of Hippo (A.D. 393) Council of Carthage (A.D. 397), the council decreed the 27 books as Divine Scripture that encapsulates the pure image and teachings of [Jesus Christ](#) as the Son of God, the Savior of the world.

### **2. Extra-Biblical Sources**

Beyond the canonical gospels, numerous extra-biblical sources from various ancient historians provide additional validation for [Jesus](#)' existence. Tacitus, a Roman historian writing in the early part of the second century A.D., mentions Christ in his work "Annals," affirming his crucifixion under Pontius Pilate. Furthermore, Jewish historian Flavius Josephus refers to [Jesus](#) in his writings "Antiquities" and "The Jewish War," confirming His impact on society and the rise of Christianity.

### **3. Non-Judeo-Christian Sources**

Even non-Judeo-Christian sources acknowledge [Jesus](#)' influence and role in history. The Roman historian Suetonius mentions disturbances within Rome due to Chrestus (Christ), highlighting early Christian presence during Emperor Claudius's reign. In his exceptional book, "[Person of Interest: Why Jesus Still Matters in a World that Rejects the Bible](#)," Mr. [Wallace](#) provides an in-depth analysis of several non-Christian sources that reference various aspects of [Jesus](#)' life and ministry in Nazareth.

### **4. Archaeological Discoveries**

Archaeologists have discovered artifacts corresponding to events described in the gospels, lending credibility to their historical accuracy. Notable findings, such as the Pontius Pilate inscription at Caesarea Maritima and the Caiaphas Ossuary, offer physical evidence of significant figures present during [Jesus](#)' crucifixion.

### **5. Christianity as a Copycat Religion**

The belief that Christianity copied stories from pagan religions, also known as the "Copycat Christianity" or "mythicist" position, has been widely discredited since the mid-20th century. The academic community has largely rejected this idea since there is a lack of substantial evidence to support it. The similarities found between different religious traditions are often due to shared human experiences and universal themes, rather than a direct correlation between Christianity and other mythological stories.

For instance, some skeptics argue that the story of [Jesus](#) was borrowed from earlier mythological figures, such as Horus or Mithras. However, the idea of a unified religion is misinformed and misrepresents the Gospel records. The early Christian writers did not have access to any pre-Christian doctrine of rebirth to borrow from. Jewish Christians would not have compromised their beliefs by blending them with other syncretic religions. Unlike other Gentile religions, Judaism was not inclusive. It is crucial to examine the evidence from both the canonical gospels and extra-biblical sources to understand the credibility of [Jesus Christ](#)'s life.

Furthermore, Mr. [Wallace](#) and I [discussed](#) how the timing of the canonical gospels and the accounts of [Jesus](#)' life predate other supposed parallels. The gospels were written within decades of [Jesus](#)' life, while the supposed parallels from other religions emerged much later. Mr. [Wallace](#) further pointed out that the parallels between [Jesus](#) and these mythological figures are often exaggerated or outright fabricated.

The bottom line is the historical evidence firmly establishes that [Jesus](#)' life and teachings were unique and distinct from any other religious figure.

If someone challenges the credibility of [Jesus](#) and the Christian faith, take a firm stance and provide them with evidence of the historical existence of [Jesus Christ](#). It's equally important to emphasize the profound significance of His death, burial, and resurrection, which offers us a new life in Him. Communicating this message can help others understand the truth about [Jesus](#) and His lasting impact on the world.

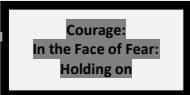
—  
*Jason Jimenez is the founder and president of [Stand Strong Ministries](#) and is a respected Christian-worldview speaker, and faculty member at [Summit Ministries](#). He is the best-selling author of "[Hijacking Jesus: How Progressive Christians Are Remaking Him and Taking Over the Church](#)," "[Challenging Conversations: A Practical Guide to Discuss Controversial Topics in the Church](#)," and "[Parenting Gen Z: Guiding Your Child through a Hostile Culture](#)."*

Have you ever had to hold on for dear life?

Those iconic movie scenes.... Suspended from a height that is certain to kill you

I'll Never Let Go Jack!

BWCA – Holding On for Dear Life



Review We have one more description... Position of Courage to discuss... Not an exhaustive, but illustrative list

Christ is our definition of Courage Courage will look different along the way for all of us...

Some times we will have to take a stand, take a Knee, Speak Up, Shut up... Last couple that we've discussed is Letting Go : Holding On

Last week – Letting Go... Letting go of past pain, past success... regrets and stress... people we love and Miss (Lk15) Phil 3.13-16

In order to hold on, first we must let go... What am I holding on to?

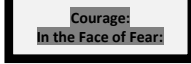
Dt10.20 NAS Summary of the Law from Moses You shall fear the Lord your God, You shall serve him and cling to him

Dt13.4 NAS You shall walk after the Lord your God & Fear him & keep his commandments & obey his voice. Serve Him & Cling to him

Gen2.24 Husband should leave his father and mother and cleave to his wife Who am I holding on to? Bind w permanent glue Discussion

### Grip Strength

Volunteers: Hold On to this – 45 lbs



Eleazar and the Sword 2 Sam 23.10 Eleazar struck down the philistines until his hand froze to the sword

How long can I Hold on for?

### Jacob

Gen25.26 afterword his brother came out holding onto his brothers heel, so his name was Jacob

Gen32.26 Jacob holding on to the Lord

Am I able to Hold On through the pain?

I will not let you go, unless you bless me

Do I know why I am holding on?

### Job (Justification)

Job 2.9 CSB Job and His Wife

Then his wife said to him... are you still holding onto your integrity... curse God and Die and you thought you had marriage problems

Job 27.6 ESV I hold fast (NAS – kept hold; CSB – Cling) my righteousness and will not let it go; my heart does not reproach me for any of my days

Robe of Righteousness – 2 Cor 5.21,

James 5.16 – Sometimes you need a some help holding on

Are the people around me helping me hold on?

Who are the people around me that might help?

### Woman (Desperation) Lk8.40-56

Woman grabbing the Hem of the Garment (Watch the Chosen)

Tsi-Tsi: Holding on by a thread

She hadn't given up on Hope!

Heb 3.6 We are his house if we hold fast to our confidence and our boasting in our hope

Heb 4.14 Hold fast to our confession that Jesus, the Son of God has passed through the heavens

Heb 6.18 Hold fast to the hope set before us

Heb 10.23 Hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful

Am I still holding on to hope?



### Jesus is the Vine Jn15.5,6

I am the vine and you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. im

Am I holding on to the right thing?

### How is holding on courageous?

More than just Biblical Stories... Making it personal

There are some things, some people, some emotions that you are barely holding on to...

Right now.... You are in process of determining... You are afraid of how much longer you can keeping holding to (whatever)

You may even be afraid of what happens if you let it go

Three suggestions for you – based on everything we've been chatting about for the past 3 months...

Courage is Obedience to Christ in the face of Fear

Letting Go might be the easier thing to do...

Just give up on the struggle of the emotions, the relationships, all the responsibilities

But deep down... you know it's the wrong thing to do...

sometimes holding on just a minute longer... an hour longer... a day longer

is the only thing you can do... it's the most courageous thing to do (A friend of Friend's Story)

### Let Go of what's holding me back

Ask Jesus what/who I need to hold on to

### Move into a Better Position

Like the Woman... Find out where Jesus is.. where he will be and be there

### Strengthen my Grip

Keep reading, keep praying, keep holding

Hold on like my life depends on it. Never Let Go

He will never let go of you

What is Christ Telling you to do through the Spirit?  
Are you holding on to a Rubber Ball (Responsibilities) , Lead Ball (Relationships), Glass Ball (Faith, Hope and Love)?  
Do you need help holding on?



***Who do you think has the best grip in this room?***

***What or who do you personally hold on to the most?***

***What is the hardest thing in life to hold on to?***

***How is "holding on" a courageous act?***

You come from and are an extension of Legacy...

**What is your family known for?** What is your marriage known for? **Most recognizable Families** **Most recognizable couples**

What do you want your family / Marriage be known for?

What would it take for the next branch in your family tree to be described as Courageous Generation?

A Generation who looked in the face of fear and became known as a people who were more than conquerors... **a Rom 8.37 people**

Review Series Courage: In the Face of Fear (Very Timely) (3 Parts: Definitions, Positions, Applications)

We can't talk about courage w/out talking about fear... Ancient Proverb – **Fear and Courage are Brothers**

*Whether it's a righteous holy fear of the Lion of Judah that produces life;*

*Or an unhealthy, unholy, cowardly fear that produces death... Both Fear's have a spiritual source we follow what we fear*

Positions: Stand Up, Bow Down; Speak Up, Shut Up; Run Towards, Run Away; Saying Yes, Saying No; Holding on, Letting go

Last Week: Roger kept things simple – Good

How do I (as an individual) become more courageous? **TKO** **Trust and Obey Song**

Today: How do we as a family (Marriage / Children / Others) become known for our courage? **Neh 4.14** Sword / Hammer

To help us with that answer... **120 Day assessment** – Explain Home Pointe and Campaigns: **Discussion Questions**

Courage:  
In the Face of Fear:  
Courageous Homes

## Kill Circle

**Adam and Eve** (Gen 1.26,27; 2.15-25; 3.1-13)

The Image

Goals of the World – Spiritual forces of Evil – Sin:

Question what the Lord has said. Convince us that he didn't mean what he said. Join in their rebellion

To Cause fear, when we hear the Lord approaching... and rob us of our joy and innocence...

Drive us into isolation: Cut off from the Lord and from Each other Drive us into Hiding: Run to the Trees

Join them in their likeness... in their Image.... To damage, distort who we are... to recreate us

Who do I look like?

Courage:  
In the Face of Fear:

**Elkhannah and Hannah** (1 Sam 1.1-28; 2.1-11)

Elkhannah: Ephriamite – Judges 12.6 – Jephthah: Sibboleth or Shibboleth Two Wives: Peninnah and Hannah Go to Shiloh

Asked about her feelings He paid attention to her!

When you don't know how to help your wife, children; bring them to the one who does? Where am I bringing my family?

BOTH OF THEM, gave their child to the LORD

Vrs 23... may the lord confirm his word (NAS) help you keep your promise (NLT)\_V 25 then they brought the bull... then they slaughtered

They kept worshipping... Hannah's Prayer / Song

**Priscilla and Aquilla** 6x in 4 books of the NT- 3x in Acts 18 alone (Acts 18.1-26; Rom 16.3-5; 1 Cor 16.19; 2 Tim 4.19)

Acts 18 is a significant time for Paul

This is the farthest Paul has taken the gospel so far... Chapter 17 – Dream of the Macadonian Man Map of Greece

Paul has escaped persecution in the Northern area of Greece -

**Apollos** Main Issue: Only teaching John's Baptism: A Baptism that got you ready for the Kingdom: NO HS stuff

Rd vs 24-26 Are we working together for the same goal? Do we have independent lives & pursuits? Advancing Kingdom?

Priscilla and Aquilla made such an impact on the Kingdom and Paul... they were some of the last people on his mind 2 Tim 4.19

Who is my family influencing for the Kingdom?

**Philip's Daughters** (Acts 21.9)

Philip: Introduced in Acts 6 – Deacon: on the surface he is a problem solvers... and a good one...

but underneath Philip and every other deacon in the story of acts had something other good problem solvers didn't have...

A) Good Reputations B) Full of the Holy Spirit C) Full of Wisdom

Philip continues to make Impact in the faith community in Acts 8 – Just after another friend, Deacon, Brother was killed (Stephen)

Philip doesn't quit... He continues to live our the words of Mt 28.19... as you go... make disciples Samaria Rd to Gaza

Next place we run into Philip is when Paul is on his way back to Jerusalem – Everyone, everywhere w/ dogs is telling Paul, not to go.

Acts 21.8 – Paul goes to Caesarea... goes to Philips house... 4 unmarried daughters who prophesied

Agabus – Belt How am I partnering with the next generation?

Best Example to model our families after **Christ and the Church** (Eph 5.22-33-6.4; 2 Cor 11.1-4; Rev 19.6-9)

Read Eph 5.22-6.4 Wives Husbands Wives Children Fathers

Read 2 Cor 11.1-4 I betrothed you to Him! Do not be deceived like Eve and follow another Christ

What/ who does my family look like?



**Take a Family Picture:** Reflection, Discussion, Decision

**Fight Evil** (Don't Flirt with it)

Listen to the questions being asked or discussed, prevent isolation

Stay together:

Talk together, Work together, play together...

Under no circumstances, will I leave my family... will I entertain divorce... will I entertain divorcing from His Standards...

Enjoy the Garden

Produce Fruit: Advance the Kingdom

What do you think the greatest threat to your family is today?

Which marriages or families in the Bible are inspirational to you?

What do you want your family to be known for and why?

What does courage look like for a family today?

### Most recognizable Families

Rothschild  
Rockefellers  
Roosevelts  
Waltons  
Bush Family  
Obama's  
Kennedy's  
Duck Dynasty (Robertsons)

Walton Family  
Royal Family  
Adam's Family  
Jackson Family  
Kardashian - Jenner  
Ptolemies

### Most recognizable couples

Cleopatra / Mark Antony  
Paris / Helen  
Jonny Cash / June Carter

Sonny / Cher  
Bonnie / Clyde  
Romeo / Juliet

### Review

Courage is not the absence of fear, but mastery of fear

Fear is natural and one could argue healthy (as some level) to be afraid

All Fear has a spiritual source: Everyone in here is afraid of something... the questions are...

What are you afraid of, why are you afraid of thing, and how does that fear affect your behavior

Whether it's a righteous holy fear of the Lion of Judah that produces life;

Or an unhealthy, unholy, cowardly fear that produces death... Both Fear's have a spiritual source **we follow what we fear**

### Elkhannah and Hannah

Elkhannah: Ephriamite – Judges 12.6 – Jephthah: Sibboleth or Shibboleth

Two Wives: Peninnah and Hannah One had kids... one didn't No Kids – Elkhannah loved **Vrs 5... because he loved her**

Sounds like Abraham: Hagar and Sarah and Jacob: Leah and Rachel story

Elkhannah go to Shiloh frequently to sacrifice to the Lord

Gave Hannah 2x portion for sacrifice as they would go to Tabernacle **Vrs 5... but to Hannah he gave a double portion**

Elkhannah loved Hannah Brought her to the Lord with him... Encouraged Personal Worship Addressed Her concerns

**Asked about her feelings** He paid attention to her!

**When you don't know how to help your wife, children; bring them to the one who does?** **Who am I bringing my family to?**

### Priscilla and Aquilla

Paul has escaped persecution in the Northern area of Greece -

**Arrives in Corinth** Meets Aquilla and Priscilla **vrs 2** Fellow Tent Makers **vrs 3**

A / P are on the Run from Rome b/c of Claudius' Persecution of the Jews **41 or 53** [Claudius' expulsion of Jews from Rome - Wikipedia](#)

**Vrs 9... don't be afraid. Keep speaking, do not be silent. I am with you. Noone will attack you to harm you.**

**I have many in this city who are my people.... Paul stayed a year and half Vrs 11**

During this new relationship, P/A move from Business partners to Kingdom Partners...

Paul will go back to Antioch from Corinth, leaving P / A in Ephesus **Vrs 19**

There they will meet a guy by the name of Apollos (crazy good speaker – take the best speaker you know and multiply it by 1000x)

From Alexanderia – Access to the world's best Library Place where **Cleopatra** was from

There was an issue however – he was only teaching John's Baptism: A Baptism that got you ready for the Kingdom: NO HS stuff

### Read Eph 5.22-6.4

Wives: Submit

Husband Love Your Wives Like Jesus Loved the Church

Gave himself up for her – its not about you today... tomorrow... ever... Lay down your plans, your agendas, your desires...

They come second

Sanctify Her – Purify... Render down... Boil Impurities... Help her be more like Jesus today than she was yesterday.

How do I do that? Like Jesus did it... through paitence, guidance, teaching, example, paitence, devotion, love

Cleanse Her – by the washing of the water with the word

Read the stories in the bible with her and to her... Encourage her with the words you find in the book

That means I have to read it... yep...

Take care of her – vrs 29...

Be One with her... She is your priority

Wives: Respect

Children: Obey – Honor

Fathers: Don't provoke your Children to Anger

Instruct and Discipline them in the Lord

What are you afraid of? **\*365 – Don't be Afraid for Each Day** (Yes and No) Tech - 150 Fear Nots... The rest are vrs that say *fear Him*)

Worldly Courage says, the only thing to fear is fear itself!

Biblical Courage says fear the one who destroys fear itself! Fear the Lord.

Campaign for 120 Days

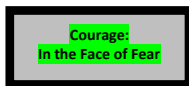
Campaign – Help you bring Holy Habits in your Home.

*Crib to Coffin; Womb to Tomb*

Our Focus has been Courage: In the Face of Fear

Lion Names

Today is Celebration; 1<sup>st</sup> Reminders



120 Day Assessment Results

Pass out New Assessments / Eph 5 Family Image Card

More than a Sticker on a Tumbler

Difficult in this world today

The world tells us to sit down, shut up, Fall in the Line, Embrace a false definition of peace,

*Depend on yourself – Baal*

*Enjoy your self (any pleasure, any time w anyone) – Ashera*

*Sacrifice anything or anyone who gets in the way - Molech*

## Definition of Courage

Courage: Is it an Action? A Place of Being? A Position of the Heart

Courage is Obedience to the Spirit that stems from knowledge and confidence of Christ who empowers you act, react, persist in the face of fear

**Courage is obedience to the Lord in the Face of Fear!**

Not just belief... it is faith in Action, Reaction and sometimes Resistance

We need faith to be Obedience... in order to be courageous, we need obedience...

Even the demons believe.... The Difference is Evil leverages their believe for rebellion...

**Important Note:** The closer you get the Spirit... The Closer Evil will get to you... its like the Eye of Sauron...

The Closer Evil gets to you, the more courage you will need....

Evil is growing in our world today... its not b/c evil is more confident... I believe evil is growing b/c its more concerned...

Evil knows its time is limited.... *M8.28,29 what have you to do w/ us 'O Son of God'; have you come to torment us before the appointed time*

Courage is not automatic... as our relationship & confidence in who the Spirit is grows closer; our courage grows louder & evil cowers

**Be Courageous...** How or where do you need courage in your life, marriage, family or faith today?

**Read Biblical Verses**

**Duet 31.6** *"Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the LORD your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you."*

End w/ Joshua 1.9, Jn 16.33, 2 Tim 1.7

**Fear is the birthplace of Courage... Courage is the Death of Fear**

**Deuteronomy 31:6** "Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the LORD thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee."

**Joshua 1:7-9** "Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest. This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

**1 Chronicles 28:20** "And David said to Solomon his son, Be strong and of good courage, and do it: fear not, nor be dismayed: for the LORD God, even my God, will be with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee, until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD."

**Psalms 31:24** "Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the LORD."

**Isaiah 41:10-13** "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. Behold, all they that were incensed against thee shall be ashamed and confounded: they shall be as nothing; and they that strive with thee shall perish. Thou shalt seek them, and shalt not find them, even them that contended with thee: they that war against thee shall be as nothing, and as a thing of nought. For I the LORD thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee."

**1 Corinthians 15:58** "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

**1 Corinthians 16:13** "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong."

**Ephesians 6:10** "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might."

**Psalms 23:4** "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

**Psalms 27:1** "The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

**Psalms 56:3-4** "What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee. In God I will praise his word, in God I have put my trust; I will not fear what flesh can do unto me."

**Isaiah 54:4** "Fear not; for thou shalt not be ashamed: neither be thou confounded; for thou shalt not be put to shame: for thou shalt forget the shame of thy youth, and shalt not remember the reproach of thy widowhood any more."

**Matthew 10:28** "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

**2 Timothy 1:7** "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

**Hebrews 13:5-6** "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

**1 Peter 3:14-16** "But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled; But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear: Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ."

**1 John 4:18** "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love."

**John 14:27** "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

**Romans 8:15** "For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father."

**Philippians 1:12-14** "But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel; So that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace, and in all other places; And many of the brethren in the Lord, waxing confident by my bonds, are much more bold to speak the word without fear."