

LIVING WITH COURAGE

Rules of Engaging Your Faith in Life

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Courage is the strength to step out in faith – believing God can and will make the difference – and do what He said He would.

1. Courage to Believe – Saving Faith

Courage to believe what you have come to know and then taking that step of faith to accept the gift of God's grace.

John 1:12 – Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—

Joshua 1:8 – Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and *courageous*. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

Courage is maintaining a strong faith perspective – To trust the Lord and to keep on keeping on.

2. Courage to Act – Living Faith

Courage to Act on What You Know. God says it. I believe it. That settles it.

Proverbs 28:1 – The wicked flee though no one pursues, but the righteous are as **bold** as a lion.

- **2 Chronicles 32:7** Be strong and *courageous*. Do not be afraid or discouraged, for there is a greater power with us than with him.
- **1 Chronicles 28:20** David also said to Solomon his son, "Be strong and *courageous*, and do the work. Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord God, my God, is with you. He will not fail you or forsake you until all the work for the service of the temple of the Lord is finished.

Philippians 2:13 – for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

Courage is what is behind the intentional decision to engage your faith in God in this world – to stand out, to step out and to speak out!

3. Courage to Trust – Persevering Faith

Courage is trusting God without hesitation and without compromise!

Courage to Trust What You Know

Philippians 1:20 – I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient *courage* so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death.

James 1:12 – Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 – Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

Courage is hanging in there with God by faith against whatever odds – surrendering your life to Him believing His way is best.

Great Steps for Living with Courage

- 1. Pray for courage daily to do what God wants to live His way.
- 2. Ask another person to hold you to what you believe pushing you to boldly live out your faith.
- 3. Risk tenaciously simply and stubbornly obey God do life His way.
- 4. Dare to wear out your Bible to know God and His way to live.
- 5. Live with courage believing God is there, that He knows what is best and will do what He says He will.

PUT GOD FIRST – LIFE GOES BEST