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Courageous SPirit

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# Building Courage

Has to do with people believing in you. There is actual gold in your physical body. Dicks sporting goods ad. Not enough in there to pay your rent. The highest concentration of gold in your body is in your heart.

*"Courage is the most important of all virtues because without it, we can't practice any other virtue with consistency" - Maya Angelou*

All other virtues can be held passive. The degree of courage that you cultivate makes sure that all the other things get a way to become manifest. Be courageous! Willing to face your fear

Cour age = The ability to face danger, difficulty, uncertainty, or pain without being overcome by fear or being deflated from a chosen course of action.

# Love well

Called first to love well. It is frightening because loving people makes way for hurt by other people. As you walk towards that which scares you, that what scares you moves. When you stop moving; somehow it feels like it gets bigger. What gets bigger is your awareness of how much it is going to hurt. Bigger in your mind, you pay more attention to what is going to happen to you then why you're doing what you're doing. The element that you tap and bring it into the why you're doing what you're doing.

These snowboarders are so messed up have broken bones, and they're telling him how scared they are of girls. You're going through hell and then jump off those hills again, right? Yes, and you're scared of a girl? Courage looks different for everyone, scared for different things. Any of those things will stop me in my tracks.

# Why are we alive?

Jesus is the one who gives us the why we’re alive. If you don't get it from Him you get it from the what you do well. Eventually, it is a false God, what you're most afraid of losing. Sing really well, really pretty, rich. That’s what you do and why you're alive. Then you're really scared to lose those things. Those things are what you serve because they serve you. Idolatry, manipulation of things to get something. Jesus doesn't manipulate you, He watches you fighting it off. He will wait until you grow, humble, repent.

**Not my will, but Your will be done.**

# Boldness

*“Now when they saw the boldness (cheerful courage) of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus.”* - Acts 4:14

Not afraid of people, Social Media, or anything. Because they know what they're here for. Don't call courage being an idiot, not what we’re doing. Persecuted wherever I go because of the Gospel, no! It’s because you're a jerk :p

Courage comes from being with God. They have been with Him. We get invited into these moments. The scary part is you don't know when your courage will be called upon. You don't know when. It is coming.

*“We gain strength, and courage, and confidence by each experience in which we really stop to look fear in the face… We must do that which we think we cannot.” -* Eleanor Roosevelt.

# A Defining Moment…

So scared of the rattlesnake story, so scared of what could've happened to him

*“There are two types of courage: physical courage, like that of a soldier, this I lack in; the other moral courage, of which I have plenty.” - Abraham Lincoln*

Know the why, why am I doing what I am doing? Gives me the ability to face the fear I have to kill him. 0 reason to walk towards a rattlesnake, the instinct kicked in trying to save his life, then the why kicked in. The kids that could've been bitten. Who I am going to be on the other side of this situation. **Who am I going to be after this situation has happened?**

# Moral Courage

Integrity - Obedience - Compassion

He has killed a snake and a bear, that is momentum you carry in it. Where is the lion? Goliath is standing right there. Maybe this is your lion, bear. Think in series, building to something else. The Same year he was in the home of a foster parent. Beautiful story until one day he brings her to his house, she came onto him. Talked to the girl, totally different story the foster parent had been molesting her. Confronted him, tear bath, told them why, pastor, parents, everything being told. Sheriff's department the next day to turn him in.

Not a single person there that didn't testify that he put his guts out the whole night. Him and the girl that say that they are lying in court. In the hallway of the court, suit on because it helps you. It does not help you, more nervous. Fear not for I am with you! He got that song. His heart settled down, the courage it took to be a witness with a defense attorney go after him. Telling the story of being at his friend's house tonight. She knows they will take the foster mother's baby away because of what he has done. He can't think about the situation without balling his eyes out. Faced another one of his greatest fears, rejected in public. Every professional he knew was siding with the defense lawyer. The only one left was the girl, she had a rough life.

The idea of the culture of honor; I treat you like I would treat Jesus. Pastor, nurse, parents, defense attorney and he and his wife were never the same. Left ministry, divorced. The integrity that you carry is on display when you need courage. Inside will show up with what comes out. That thing that is trying to violate your why, here to live the truth love like Jesus loves.

# Integrity

*“Whoever has no rule over his own spirit is like a city broken down, without walls.”* Proverb 25:28

The greatest fear is the one you didn't think off. Would you be my associate? no, I think I have diarrhea for 2 years. Didn't think of that fear of talking in public. ;) Spirit of truth lives in you, you know what we’re doing right now. Your courage will be called upon. You will be asked to do something that doesn't make any sense at all. They talked so long about buying a six pack of diet coke. Grew up around Bill Johnson, mr. generous. Had some things happen, $300 which was like $300000 in those days. Somebody needed it and they gave it to them.

# Obedience

Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said

# Compassion

Absolute strangers or have compassion for somebody you know very closely. Being moved when you feel powerless. Big momentum going on right now. Emergency room for fun. If you lose that momentum all of a sudden praying for the sick and prophesying requires courage again. Not a lot of people realize that that fire that you feel was built by somebody else. Feels so good, fire is so amazing it is! It is awesome. In June you'll discover your fire.

*And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. 34 Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ -* Matthew 25:33-36 (ESV)

Grow in compassion, not just to total strangers. Go to family, friends who let you down, former employers who mishandled your situation, former church leaders who mishandled your situation. Step into the courage, the love, the faith.

If I were 10 times More Courageous… than I am right now, what would be different about your life? The way you live your life day after day? What would the priorities of your time, money, giftings be? What would you be doing if you didn't let anything stop you? What would your life look like? That is who really is in there. That goal that lives in your heart. Our enemy knows where the gold is hiding. Our Lord knows where He put the gold. Never been a bunch of gold anywhere where there wasn't a war. Wherever you find the war the battle, bigger push back there is gold right there!

I think that is why Paul says I wish you would all prophesy, seek the gold in each other, speak courage for the benefit of the people around you. He put gold in you for the benefit of others. Sherry says that over and over and over. We’re called to be great, not for you, but the people around you.