

Resolved: Common People/Uncommon Courage

Joshua

Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong. Do everything in love.
(1 Cor. 16:13-14)

Joshua: the courage to answer God's call...

After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' aide: "Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them – to the Israelites. (Joshua 1:1-2)

God's call...

- **Comes with a kingdom challenge (purpose)** – “I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates – all the Hittite country – to the Great Sea on the west.” (vv. 3-4)
- **Comes with the promise of God's power (dependence)** – “No one will be able to stand up against you all the days of your life.” (v. 5a)
- **Comes with the promise of God's presence (assurance)** – “As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you.” (v. 5b)
- **Comes with a choice to make (obedience)** – “Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their forefathers to give them. Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go.” (vv. 6-7)

‡ **The great enemies of courageous faith: Fear and discouragement** – “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged...” (v. 9a)

‡ **Spiritual courage: trusting God's presence despite your fear** – “...for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.” (v. 9b)

If I'm going to answer God's call in my life with courage, I need to...

- **Meditate on the word of God** – “Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; 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.” (v. 8)
- **Look to the Son of God** – “Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider Him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.” (Heb. 12:2-3)

Am I being called?