

Courage: Common Enemies to Courage

James 5:13-16

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God's perfect plan is to use imperfect people to point others to a perfect God who loves them.

Courage || We boldly and authentically step out as we pursue others.

Three common enemies that keep us from being courageous.

Common enemy #1 is guilt.

Guilt lies by saying, "I'm not doing enough."

Common enemy #2 is shame.

Shame lies by saying, "I'm not enough."

Common enemy #3 is fear.

Fear lies by saying, "God's not enough."

Fear fixates on the lie that God's not enough to supply the things that are needed.

- Fear of rejection.
- Fear of being wrong.
- Fear of disappointment. You fear that God will disappoint you.

We need tactics to combat the enemy.

Combat Tactic #1 for courage is confession.

We bring fear to light before God and others.

Jesus models the courage and life we want to imitate.

Combat Tactic #2 for courage is the Holy Spirit's power.

Jesus lived by the power of the Holy Spirit.

But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. (Matthew 12:28)

Jesus lived courageously by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Combat Tactic #3 for courage is God's promises.

Sanctify them in the truth, your word is truth. (John 17:17)

His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. (2 Peter 1:3-4)

Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much. (James 5:16)

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Is anyone among you sick? Then he must call for the elders of the church; they are to pray over him [the one who is sick], anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. (James 5:14)

We don't want to be more or less charismatic than the Bible. We want scripture to guide us, not tradition nor people.

Big Idea: The Holy Spirit helps us to live courageously even when times are hard and scary.