



Rooted in Scripture - Pointing to Jesus

CHRISTIAN LIVING

Fear and Courage

Trusting God Enough to Obey When Fear Is Real

The Short Answer

Biblical courage is not the absence of fear. It is trusting God enough to obey Him when danger, uncertainty, pain, or opposition are real. Courage grows from knowing God's character and taking the next faithful step.

Joshua 1:1-9 • Psalm 27 • Psalm 56 • Isaiah 41:8-13 • 2 Timothy 1:7

Opening Memory Anchor

Courage is not pretending there is nothing to fear. It is trusting God enough to obey Him even when fear is present.



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1. Fear Can Be Honest

Fear is a human response to threat, uncertainty, loss, or pain. Scripture does not ask God's people to deny what is frightening. The Psalms repeatedly bring fear into the presence of God.

Read the related passages in context, and ask what they reveal about God, people, Jesus, and faithful response.



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2. Remember Who God Is

Courage is rooted in God's presence, wisdom, power, and faithfulness. God's command to Joshua to be strong and courageous was joined to His promise: "The Lord your God is with you."

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3. Courage Is Obedience

Courage often looks ordinary: tell the truth, make the call, seek help, leave danger, apologize, wait patiently, or keep doing what God has clearly commanded. Feeling afraid does not make faithful obedience false.

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4. Wisdom Is Not Cowardice

Trusting God does not require reckless choices. Scripture commends wise precautions, counsel, and discernment. Sometimes courage means staying; sometimes it means fleeing, reporting harm, or asking for protection.

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5. The Fear of the Lord

The fear of the Lord is reverent awe and trust. It puts lesser fears in their proper place. When God is seen rightly, human approval, circumstances, and threats no longer have the final authority.

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6. Courage in Community

Believers are strengthened through prayer, Scripture, encouragement, and practical support. Do not equate courage with isolation. Tell someone trustworthy when you are afraid, especially when safety is at stake.

Read the related passages in context, and ask what they reveal about God, people, Jesus, and faithful response.



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Want to Go Deeper? Jesus and Fear

Jesus knows suffering and opposition. In the garden He prayed honestly, yet obeyed the Father. His death and resurrection mean believers face fear in the presence of the risen Christ, not alone.

Read the related passages in context, and ask what they reveal about God, people, Jesus, and faithful response.



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8. A Faithful Practice

Name one fear. Ask: What is actually happening? What truth about God speaks to it? What is one wise, faithful step? Take that step with prayer and support.

Read the related passages in context, and ask what they reveal about God, people, Jesus, and faithful response.



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9. Prayer

Father, You are with me. Help me face fear honestly, act wisely, and obey You with courage rooted in Jesus. Amen.

Read the related passages in context, and ask what they reveal about God, people, Jesus, and faithful response.