

# Let There Be...Courage

Ray of Hope Christian Church

The Gathering

Rev. Aaron Smith

Didn't He  
Deliver Daniel?



# Scripture

Daniel 6:26-27

“For he is the living God and he endures forever; his kingdom will not be destroyed, his dominion will never end. He rescues and he saves; he performs signs and wonders in the heavens and on the earth. He has rescued Daniel from the power of the lions.”

# Scripture

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.



What do you think about when you hear the word courage?



Noah, Abraham  
and Sarah, Rahab,  
Esther, David,  
Jeremiah, Mary,  
John the Baptist,  
Paul



“Courage is the most important of all the virtues because without courage, you can't practice any other virtue consistently.”  
– **Maya Angelou**



“I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear.” **Nelson Mandela**



"Success is not final; failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts."

— **Winston S. Churchill**

# Scripture

2 Samuel 10:12

Be strong, and let us fight bravely for our people and the cities of our God. The Lord will do what is good in his sight."

## Scripture

# Ephesians 6:10-18

- **10** Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. **11** Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

## Scripture

# Ephesians 6:10-18

- **12** For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

## Scripture

# Ephesians 6:10-18

- **13** Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

# Scripture

Ephesians 6:10-18, Cont'd

**14** Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, **15** and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. **16** In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. **17** Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

# Where does courage come from?

We don't need to make up our own definition of courage.

The Scriptures teach us where courage comes from.



# Where does courage come from?

For the Believer in Christ, obedience to Christ will create courageous character to prepare us for courageous moments in our lives that please God.



# Where does courage come from?

We don't need to force ourselves to be courageous. It will come naturally by being faithful.



# The Story of Daniel

Daniel in the Den of Lions.

It started with favor. Daniel was favored by King Darius.

Daniel was an administrator in charge of a certain area in Babylon.

He had satraps that worked for him to help govern.

His associates and colleagues became jealous of Daniel's ability and conspired to defeat him.

# The Story of Daniel

Daniel's colleagues convinced King Darius not to allow any prayer for 30 days.

This plan was an indirect attack at Daniel who prayed to God faithfully every day.

When Daniel began praying he was taken into custody and thrown in the den of lions.

# The Story of Daniel

The lion in Daniel's story represents might and power. The lion was meant by the enemy to destroy Daniel. But because Daniel was faithful to God, the lion had no power over Daniel. God shut the mouths of the lions and ensured that he would not be harmed.

Three people in Scripture defeated lions: David, Samson, and Benaiah.

# The Courage of Christ Jesus

The life of Jesus demonstrated and defined courage.

Jesus gave voice to the voiceless.

He served in the face of opposition.

He loved everyone equally. The proof of that is the Cross.

He remained faithful.

He fulfilled his work and the promises of God.

# Who is the Lion of Judah?

Revelation 5:5 reveals to us that the Lion is Jesus himself.

Jesus does not just encounter the lions. He is the Lion.



# Questions to Consider

1. When do you feel most courageous?
2. When was the last time you felt courageous?
3. Where does your courage come from?
4. How do you share your courage with others?