

# PURSUING OUR CAPACITY

A person with a backpack stands on a mountain peak, looking out over a vast, hazy landscape of rolling hills and valleys.

Living Courageously?

# What is Courage?

**“Courage** (also called bravery) is the choice and willingness to confront agony, pain, danger, uncertainty, or intimidation.”

# 1. Courage - Door into God's Promises

Deuteronomy 31:6-8 NLT

<sup>6</sup> “So **be strong and courageous!** Do not be afraid and do not panic before them. For the Lord your God will personally go ahead of you. He will neither fail you nor abandon you.”

<sup>7</sup> Then Moses called for Joshua, and as all Israel watched, he said to him, “**Be strong and courageous!** For you will lead these people into the land that the Lord swore to their ancestors he would give them. You are the one... <sup>8</sup> Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord will personally go ahead of you. He will be with you; he will neither fail you nor abandon you.”

**“Inaction breeds doubt and fear.  
Action breeds confidence and  
courage. If you want to conquer  
fear, do not sit home and think  
about it. Go out and get busy.”**

Dale Carnegie

## 2. Fear and Courage Have Voices...

Psalm 27:1-3 NLT

<sup>1</sup> The Lord is my light and my salvation—  
so **why should I be afraid?** The Lord is my fortress, protecting  
me from danger, so **why should I tremble?** <sup>2</sup> When evil people  
come to devour me, when my enemies and foes attack  
me, they will stumble and fall. <sup>3</sup> Though a mighty army  
surrounds me, my heart will not be afraid. Even if I am  
attacked, **I will remain confident.**

# Q. Why Does God Encourage 'Courage'...?

**1. God is With Us** Genesis 28:15 NLT <sup>15</sup> "What's more, I am with you, and I will protect you wherever you go."

**2. Faith is Activated** 1 Samuel 17:45 NLT <sup>45</sup> David replied to the Philistine, "You come to me with sword, spear, and javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of Heaven's Armies—the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied."

**3. Capacity is Discovered** Psalm 60:12 NLT <sup>12</sup> With God's help we will do mighty things, for he will trample down our foes.

# 3. How To Build Confidence...

1 Thessalonians 5:16-22 NLT

<sup>16</sup> Always be joyful. <sup>17</sup> Never stop praying. <sup>18</sup> Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.

<sup>19</sup> Do not stifle the Holy Spirit. <sup>20</sup> Do not scoff at prophecies, <sup>21</sup> but test everything that is said. Hold on to what is good.

<sup>22</sup> Stay away from every kind of evil.

# Q. How Can I Live Courageously...?

- 1. Recognise where I'm cautious**
- 2. Take deliberate, 'God Inspired' risks**
- 3. Learn, and GO again**
- 4. Share my testimony! Inspire others...**



## 4. Promises To Those Living Courageously...

Isaiah 41:10 NLT

<sup>10</sup> Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. **I will strengthen you** and help you. **I will hold you up** with my victorious right hand.

John 14:27 NLT

<sup>27</sup> "I am leaving you with **a gift—peace of mind and heart**. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid.



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