

Courage

Courage is not the absence of fear; it is the mastery of it.

Courage is doing what we are afraid to do.

Joshua 1:7a (nlt) Be strong and very courageous.

2 Timothy 2:7 (nlt) God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.

It takes courage to **BE ORDINARY.**

Acts 4:13 (niv) When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.

Every single day we make choices between the **right thing** and the **most convenient thing.**

To choose the way of integrity and staying true to our convictions takes courage.

It takes courage to **FACE OUR FEARS.**

Deuteronomy 31:6 (niv) Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you.

Every fear mastered causes us to grow more in courage.

It takes courage to **TAKE RESPONSIBILITY.**

It takes courage to be a Christ follower and to own up to our sins before God who is holy.

*1 John 1:9 (niv) If we **confess** our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.*

It takes courage to **FULFIL GOD'S WILL FOR OUR LIVES.**

Jesus is our greatest example. He was a man of courage.

No one can fully comprehend or fully understand the pain and suffering Jesus endured.

Isaiah 53:5 (niv) Surely He took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered Him stricken by God, smitten by Him, and afflicted.

Jesus had seemingly lost all resemblance to a man.

Isaiah 52:14 (tlb) They shall see My Servant beaten and bloodied, so disfigured one would scarcely know it was a person standing there.

Jesus set His face courageously and steadfastly toward "**Skull Hill**" (Golgotha).

John 3:16 (niv) For God so loved the world, that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Within these sufferings of Jesus, lies the heart of the full and great salvation God offers to us.

Jesus was truly '**The Man of Courage!**'

We can be people of courage in the face of adversity and the obstacles that life throws at us.

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