



## The Strong & Courageous Life

Justin Worden – November 10, 2010  
Tupos SM - Wednesday Night Live

**Joshua 1:1-9** = "1 After the death of Moses the Lord's servant, the Lord spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' assistant. He said, 2 "Moses my servant is dead. Therefore, the time has come for you to lead these people, the Israelites, across the Jordan River into the land I am giving them. 3 I promise you what I promised Moses: 'Wherever you set foot, you will be on land I have given you— 4 from the Negev wilderness in the south to the Lebanon mountains in the north, from the Euphrates River in the east to the Mediterranean Sea in the west, including all the land of the Hittites.' 5 No one will be able to stand against you as long as you live. For I will be with you as I was with Moses. I will not fail you or abandon you. 6 "Be strong and courageous, for you are the one who will lead these people to possess all the land I swore to their ancestors I would give them. 7 Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do. 8 Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do. 9 This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." (NLT)

### I. The Time To Step Up Is Now

#### a. From Moses to Joshua

- i. Moses was God's man... from the beginning!
  1. God's hand was all over this leader
  2. The kind of pastor anyone would want!
- ii. Josh. begins where Deut. ends = death of Moses
  1. v.5 = "God's great promise to Moses 'I will be with you' (Ex. 3:12) is now given to

Joshua (1:9, 3:7)" (Compact Bible Comm, pg 129)

#### b. From Joshua to God

- i. Joshua was now God's man, and he was probably a younger guy! God said = "Time to lead"
- ii. Book of Joshua = two main themes
  1. Possessing the land (What God promised)
  2. The covenant (Promises made to God)
- iii. Joshua's name in Hebrew means "The Lord Saves" or "May the Lord Save"

#### c. From God to Us

- i. God's encouragement to Joshua (repeated encouragement) is the same for us tonight!
- ii. Joshua 1:9 = "This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." (NLT)

### II. The Doubt Among Us Is Finished

#### a. Why Do We Doubt?

- i. Are you struggling with doubt tonight? Doubting God cares? Doubting God is there for you? Doubting you will make it through your situation?
  1. We doubt, He still comforts = "When doubts filled my mind, your comfort gave me renewed hope and cheer." (Ps. 94:19, NLT)
- ii. Everyone doubts! What leads you to doubt God?
  1. Previous failures
  2. Negative influences of others
  3. Ignorance of the Word of God
  4. Sin & guilt (ultimately)

#### b. How Do We Get Past Our Doubt (Guilt)?

- i. Meditate on God's Word (meaning read it, study it, ponder it, and ask God questions)
  1. Like a cow chewing grass (chews, swallows, regurgitates, chews again, swallow, etc)
- ii. Do it and you will understand truths like this one, and believe them!
- iii. "Haven't I commanded you? Strength! Courage! Don't be timid; don't get discouraged. God, your God, is with you every step you take." (v.9, Msg)
  1. My prayer journal from this passage = "Be strong and courageous!" I hear you commanding me, Lord, now please help me to live it out. Help me to have a strong and courageous life in how I think, where I go, what I say, how I live, and everything in between." (9/6/10)
- iv. It is time to embrace this strength & courage tonight!



### III. The Strong & Courageous Life Is Ours

#### a. The Strong and Courageous Life

- i. This is obviously very important since God repeats it 3x within 4 verses = "Be Strong and Courageous"
- ii. How are we to be strong & courageous?

As a leader (v.6 = "Be strong and courageous, for you are the one who will lead these people...") Step up as a leader!

As a follower (v.7 = "Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do.") Follow!

As His child (v.9 = "This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.")

#### b. The Scrawny and Cowardly Life

- i. List of things that paralyze our walk with God...

#### c. The Strong and Courageous Leader

- i. Be strong and courageous in "speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity" (1 Timothy 4:12)! Be a leader!



"Behold, a team went forth to play a game of baseball. Just as the umpire was saying, 'Batter up,' the catcher for the home team arrived and took his place behind the plate. The center fielder didn't show up at all but sent his regrets. The third baseman likewise failed to come to the game, having been up late the night before. The shortstop was present, but left his glove at home. Two of the substitute fielders were away on a weekend trip but said they were there in spirit.

The pitcher went to the mound and looked around for his teammates. But his heart was heavy, for their positions were empty. The game was announced, the visitors were in the stands, and there was nothing to do but pitch the ball and hope for the best. But in addition to pitching, he had to cover first and third base, as well as short and center field.

When the absent players heard that their team had lost, they were very upset. They held a meeting and decided to get a new pitcher.

When things aren't going well in the church or the youth group, our tendency is to blame the leadership. The pastor, the youth minister, or other leaders are easy targets because they are most visible.

But like a baseball team, the church can't survive without everyone pulling their weight. The pitcher—the pastor—is important, but unless everyone else shows up and fields their position or gets a hit, the game will be lost... everyone is a minister... A baseball team can't win with players who don't play. Nor can a church with ministers who don't minister." **(Hot Illustrations 1.0, The Parable of the Baseball Team)**

**Let's step up tonight, like Joshua did, & become the leaders God wants us to be! Let's be strong (in Him) and courageous (for Him).**

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## Tupos Student Ministries Small Group Life Application Sheet



Date: Wednesday, November 10, 2010

Lesson Theme: Leadership

Lesson Objective: God's charge to Joshua was clearly about being strong and courageous as a leader, as a follower, and as a child of God. Tonight we'll examine how to overcome the things in our lives that keep us from becoming the leader God has intended for us to become.

Lesson Text: **Joshua 1:9** = "This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." (NLT)

#### Discussion Questions:

1. When would you say are the times that you are strongest in the Lord? Where and why is that?
2. What are the things that paralyze your walk with God?
3. Do you believe God could use you as a leader? How?

Prayer Time: Simply ask the Lord to help you to take Him at His Word for you tonight... to be strong and courageous!



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## I. The Time To \_\_\_\_\_ Is Now

- a. From \_\_\_\_\_ to Joshua
- b. From Joshua to \_\_\_\_\_
  - i. Joshua's name in Hebrew means "The Lord Saves" or "May the Lord Save"
- c. From \_\_\_\_\_ to Us
  - i. Joshua 1:9 = "This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." (NLT)

## II. The \_\_\_\_\_ Among Us Is Finished

- a. Why Do We \_\_\_\_\_?
  - i. "When doubts filled my mind, your comfort gave me renewed hope and cheer." (Ps. 94:19, NLT)
  - ii. What leads you to doubt God?
    1. Previous \_\_\_\_\_
    2. \_\_\_\_\_ influences of others
    3. Ignorance of the \_\_\_\_\_

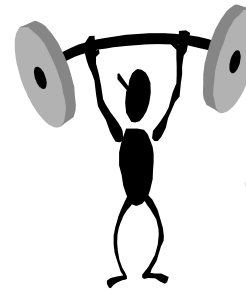


- b. How Do We Get \_\_\_\_\_ Our Doubt (Guilt)?
  - i. Meditate on God's Word (meaning read it, study it, ponder it, and ask God questions)
  - ii. "Haven't I commanded you? Strength! Courage! Don't be timid; don't get discouraged. God, your God, is with you every step you take." (v.9, Msg)

## III. The Strong & Courageous Life Is \_\_\_\_\_

### a. The \_\_\_\_\_ and Courageous Life

- a. As a \_\_\_\_\_
  - i. (v.6 = "Be strong and courageous, for you are the one who will lead these people...")
- b. As a \_\_\_\_\_
  - i. (v.7 = "Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do.")
- c. As His \_\_\_\_\_
  - i. (v.9 = "This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.")



### b. The Scrawny and \_\_\_\_\_ Life

### c. The Strong and Courageous \_\_\_\_\_

Let's step up tonight, like Joshua did,

& become the \_\_\_\_\_ God wants us to be!

Let's be \_\_\_\_\_ (in Him) and \_\_\_\_\_ (for Him).