

God's Words of Life on COURAGE

Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong.

1 Corinthians 16:13

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.

Deuteronomy 31:6

Act with courage, and may the Lord be with those who do well.

2 Chronicles 19:11

Jesus said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

Matthew 14:27

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

Philippians 1:21

I love you, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Psalms 18:1-2

Devotional Thought on COURAGE

It takes courage to look your spouse in the eye and say, "Our marriage is in serious trouble, and we've got to do something about it."

What do most people do? They put their problems on the back burner and go their own directions. While they pursue their own careers and their own recreations, the marriage disintegrates from lack of courage. They did not have the courage to put on the gloves and say, "Let's fight for this marriage." It takes courage to fight off the "greener grass" temptations, to work through layer after layer of masks, cover-ups, and defense mechanisms, to keep working on that marriage year after year. Relational courage does not apply only to the husband-wife relationship...

It also takes relational courage to build significant relationships with friends, to look another person in the eye and say, "Isn't it time we stopped talking about the weather and the stock market and started talking about what's going on in your life and mine? Isn't it time we became brothers?"

Not many men have the courage to challenge each other, to fight for each other's spiritual and relational growth. But I have learned over the years that I will never be a success in my marriage, with my kids or with my friends, without courage.

Bill Hybels