

BAKERSFIELD CHURCH OF CHRIST

LIVING OUT FAITH BY LOVING LIKE CHRIST

Take Courage

Getting Started

1. What did you find amusing, uplifting, or difficult about the lesson?
2. Some people challenge their fears by parachuting, or scuba diving—others by watching scary movies or trying exotic cuisines. When you get the urge to break out and do something bold, what do you like to do?
3. On Sunday, we learned about Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. Imagine you were there with them. Imagine it was you who was being asked to bow to an idol. What would you do? Do you think you'd fight, run, or go with the flow? Would you, like the three, stand your ground and go into the furnace?

Getting into the Bible

In Sunday's sermon Luke made the point that we can become courageous when we have nothing to lose. This week we'll study a couple of passages about letting go and taking courage.

1. Please read **Deuteronomy 31:1-8**

A. This is a pivotal moment for the people of Israel. Their leadership is changing. At the same time they are bracing for war.

1. What might they be afraid of losing?
2. What might they want to cling to for security?

B. What words does Moses use to give them courage?

1. Does this have anything to do with letting go—of having nothing to lose?

2. Sometimes being courageous isn't about fighting flesh and blood. It can also be about fighting sin.

Please keep this in mind as you read **Romans 6:8-14**

A. What does this passage have to say about letting go?

B. What kind of death do you think Paul meant when he said "we died with Christ" and to "count yourselves dead to sin?" (NIV)

C. How might dying to sin and to its evil desires make someone courageous for God? How might the opposite be true? That is, how might holding on to evil desires make someone afraid to live for God?

D. Paul said "offer every part of yourself to Him as an instrument of righteousness." What parts would someone want to hold back? What parts are easy to offer to Him?

Digging Deeper

1. How can you apply the things we've learned so that you can be courageous?
2. We learned on Sunday our courage is needed for the spiritual battle. Is there a spiritual "fight" you'd like to take on? Are you engaging in some fights that maybe you shouldn't? If you're comfortable, please share.
3. The apostle Peter tells us to "Cast all your anxiety on [God] because he cares for you" (**1 Peter 5:7**). Are there any anxieties you'd like to cast on God in prayer with your Family Group? If you can, please do.