

Courage

Bill Johnson - Session 1057

Courage is necessary to pursue the purposes of God for our lives. Bill Johnson teaches the power of courage and how to foster a lifestyle of risk-taking to do great things that bring God glory.

Thinking Like God

God Is Better than You Think

- Change the way you think to begin to think like God.
- Our inheritance is the mind of Christ.

Change Perspectives

- Read the Gospels to discover the mind of Christ.
- Jesus is building His perspective in us.
- Allow supernatural experiences to affect your perspective.

A Different Perspective

Jonathan's Courage

- Jonathan had a different perspective than his father, Saul; it was a perspective of faith (1 Samuel 14:1-15).
- Heaven cannot resist the radical devotion of faith.

Gideon's Courage

- God assured Gideon victory over the Midianite army (Judges 7:10-15).
- God loves to increase the odds against us winning a victory naturally, which qualifies us to win it supernaturally.

Courage Inspires People

Courage to Stand

- Jonathan's courage inspired his servant and the Hebrews in the camp of the Philistines (1 Samuel 14:21).
- Courage stirs the hearts of backsliders to return to the Lord.
- All people would rather live in courage than die in unbelief.
- "Attempt something so big for God that unless He shows up, you are bound to fail."
Pat Robertson

Jumping to the Front Line of Battle

- The Hebrews who were with the Philistines left them to take part in the battle.
- Courage reinstates those who have lost their place in God.
- Those hiding in the mountains were influenced by courage to join the battle (1 Samuel 14:22).

Single-Mindedness

Hold on to God's Word

- Do not be distracted. Do not fear. Do not turn to the right or left. Do not compromise the commission you have been given (Joshua 1:5-9).
- The word *single* is a combination of the words "one" and "voyage."
- The enemy will try to distract you with good things that are not your calling, decreasing your effectiveness in what you are called to do.

Meditating on the Word

- Biblical meditation fills you with courage.
- Meditating in the Word will bring prosperity and success.

Do Not Be Afraid

- In the book of Jeremiah, two prophets gave an unpopular message and were threatened. Jeremiah stood firm and prospered while the other fled and was killed.
- You prove to the enemy that he will be destroyed when you choose not to be terrified (Philippians 1:28).
- If you want to live far from oppression, you have to not fear (Isaiah 54:14).

God's Word Stirs Courage

A Word Prepares Us for What Is Coming

- God repeatedly said, "Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid" to Joshua to prepare him for what was coming (Joshua 1:5-9).
- Sometimes God repeats a word because the word will receive opposition. The repetition is meant to encourage you during opposition (Matthew 13:20-21).
- Sometimes He gives a word once and it may be more significant. The word has been hidden so that it will not have as much opposition.
- "Until the time that his word came to pass, the word of the Lord tested him" (Psalm 105:19).

Milk and Meat

- The milk of the word comforts; the meat of the word provokes you to change.
- When you make a declaration about your life, the word of the Lord will come to equip you to succeed.
- We do not just look for the verses that make us feel good, but the ones that provoke us to change.

The Results of Courage

What Courageous People Do

- Courageous people are a key for the restoration of backsliders.
- Courageous people are a key to ignite those Christians who are inactive.
- Courageous people who do not waiver from God's call are prosperous.
- Courage removes distraction.
- Courage causes demons to tremble (Luke 8:32).

Q&A with the Speaker

What should you do if you believe a demon is speaking to you from someone with whom you work?

- Do not be impressed or afraid of the enemy.

Can you share something about someone being healed of autism?

- There have been healings of Down Syndrome at Bethel Church.
- In England, Ian Andrews saw a healing of autism.
- There is an extraordinary realm of anointing that is needed for that, but it requires extraordinary humility.
- The Lord is releasing that anointing to people who care about it.

If we are supposed to have authority, why did the demon attack the sons of Sceva?

- The demons recognized that they were not in relationship with the Lord.
- Jesus gave authority to His followers.

Is it wrong to pronounce judgment?

- Judgment is real and is coming, but does not have to come.
- Sin requires judgment, but since God's desire is mercy, sin can be dealt with by the blood of Jesus through repentance or by an intercessor pleading their case.

Where is the line between a season of grace and God's wrath and judgment being poured out?

- You cannot know where the time shifts from a season of grace to judgment.
- As long as you are on the planet, it is a season of grace.
- God is waiting for us to step into our role as priests. He is looking to us to represent humanity in intercession.
- Our job is to plead mercy and not to delight in judgment.

Why do prayer languages sometimes change?

- You can make a shift by faith.
- The truth is, you are learning how to cooperate with Holy Spirit and your will matters.
- To develop spontaneity, pray in the Spirit and shift in language and expression.
- Sing spontaneously in English without premeditating on what you are going to sing.
- Walk into a room and encourage someone and see what God gives you for that person.

When someone gets a succession of prophetic words from several people, is a grace being released for that?

- Grace is given in every word.