### **FEARLESS!**

### **Be Strong & Courageous**

After the death of Moses the Lord's servant, the Lord spoke to Joshua son of Nun. Moses' assistant. He said. "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. I promise you what I promised Moses: 'Wherever you set foot, you will be on land I have given you— 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.' 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 vou, "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. 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. 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. 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." Joshua 1:1-9 (NLT)

# Courage is the <u>Willingness</u> to <u>Do</u> what you know is <u>Right</u>, <u>When</u> it needs to be done, regardless of the <u>Difficulty</u> or the <u>Danger</u>.

"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." **Joshua 1:9 (NLT)** 

### **OBSERVATIONS ABOUT COURAGE**

### Observation #1: Courage grows in us as we <u>do the things</u> which require it.

"Be strong and courageous, for you are the one who will <u>lead these people</u>..." (vs 6 NLT)

#### Joshua was simply the <u>conduit</u> through which God <u>blessed</u> His people.

"Be strong and courageous, for you are the one who will lead these people to possess all the land <u>I swore to their</u> <u>ancestors</u> I would give them." **(vs. 6 NLT)** 

## Observation #2: Courage comes when we trust that <u>God is</u> with us when we go with Him.

"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." (vs. 9 NLT)

Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the morning, And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, Even there Your hand shall lead me, And Your right hand shall hold me. **Psalm 139:7-10 (NKJV)** 

What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? <u>If</u> <u>God is for us, who can ever be against us?</u> **Romans 8:31 (NLT)** 

### **3 FEARLESS STEPS TO "POSSESS" YOUR FUTURE**

#### 1. Set up <u>a Plan</u>

"Moses, my servant, is dead. Now then, you and all these people <u>get ready</u> to cross the Jordan river... I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses." (vs. 2-3 NIV) "So Joshua ordered ... the people '<u>Get your supplies ready</u>'." (vs. 11a NIV)

Don't go charging into battle without a plan. **Proverbs 20:18 (GN)** 

"A wise man thinks ahead..." Proverbs 13:16 (LB)

### 2. Stay in the Word of God

<u>Be strong and very courageous</u>. Be careful to <u>obey</u> all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be <u>successful</u> in everything you do. **(vs. 7 NLT)** 

<u>Study</u> this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. <u>Only then will you prosper and succeed</u> in all you do. **(vs. 8 NLT)** 

The whole Bible was given to us by inspiration from God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives; <u>it straightens us out</u> and helps us do what is right. **2 Timothy 3:16 (LB)** 

### 3. Step out in Faith

"Be strong and courageous!" (vs. 6, 7, 9)

"This is my command—<u>be strong and courageous!</u> Do not be afraid or discouraged. For <u>the Lord your God is with you</u> <u>wherever you go</u>." **(vs. 9 NLT)** 

"It was the harvest season, and the Jordan was overflowing its banks. But <u>as soon as the feet of the priests who were</u> <u>carrying the Ark touched the water</u> at the river's edge, the water above that point began backing up a great distance away at a town called Adam, which is near Zarethan. And the water below that point flowed on to the Dead Sea until the riverbed was dry. <u>Then all the people crossed over</u> near the town of Jericho." **Joshua 3:15-16 (NLT)**  "<u>Choose</u> for yourselves this day whom you will serve... But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." Joshua 24:15 (NIV)

Then Joshua told the people, "Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow God will do amazing things among you!" Joshua 3:5 (NIV)