

1 Cor 16:13-15—Paul told the Church to: watch, stand fast in the **faith, be brave, be strong.**

Luke 17:5—The apostles set the example of asking for more **faith.**

Habakkuk 2:4—The just shall live by his **faith.**

Matt 17:20—The power of **faith**—to move mountains.

Gal 3:24—We are justified by faith.

"We can trust in God to give us His faith, His power and His strength."

Ames, R.F. (May-June 2004),
Tomorrow's World (p. 19).

III. Biblical Examples of Courage and Faith

Group Question: How can you tell when a leader has courage and faith? Give some examples of courageous actions that you have seen leaders take.

Gen 12:1-4—Abram told to leave family and country (Ur) and travel to Haran (a distance of more than 500 miles or 800 km).

1 Sam 17:26, 32-37—David had courage and faith in God, in the face of King Saul's fear.

2 Chron 15:7-8—King Asa "took courage" and cleansed the land of idols.

Ezra 10:1-5—Repatriating Israelites were encouraged to take courage and obey God's commands.

Matt 27:11-14—Christ was strong and courageous and maintained composure at His trial.

Acts 4—Peter and John were arrested for speaking boldly (courageously) about Christ

vv. 23-31—Their prayer for more boldness to preach the gospel.

Acts 27:33-37—Paul, as one prisoner of nearly 300 people on the ship, **encouraged** everyone, including the crew and Roman soldiers.

2 Tim 1:7—Ours is NOT a spirit of fear, but of power, love and a sound mind—a spirit of courage.

Matt 23:23—Leaders understand the weightier matters of the law, justice, mercy, and faith.

Hebrews 11:1-40—God's leaders were full of faith.

Rom 1:8—The faith of the Christians at Rome was known "throughout the world."

IV. Leadership and Courage

A. Characteristics of Courageous Leaders

Great leaders *develop* courage.

They learn to face facts and make the tough calls in any situation.

They see reality for what it is and learn to deal with it—they take appropriate action.

Risk and pain do not deter them—they never take the easy way out!

Great leaders *learn to act* courageously.

They pursue new ventures and abandon old ones that are no longer productive.

They promote risk takers and confront those who fail.

Courageous leaders are *honest*—but not cruel.

They pursue truth wherever it leads and can explain it to others.

They learn that without courage and experience, expedience prevails.

Source: Tichy, N., Cohen E. (1997). *The Leadership Engine*. NY: Harper Collins.

B. Twelve Qualities of Courageous Leaders (Handout 1)

Courageous Leaders...

1. Seek the truth—even if it is unpleasant.
2. Are humble, not arrogant—and will follow when necessary.
3. Live an ethical life—they do what is right.
4. Get involved and serve—they do not just give directions.
5. Know where they are going and how to get there.

"Courage is a quality which all of us truly *need* in the years just ahead if we are to follow the true Christianity of the Bible."

Meredith, R.C. (May-June 2000).
Tomorrow's World (p. 3).