

I Can Have Courage Knowing God Cares About Me – Central VBS

Scripture Text: 1 Peter 5:7

Courage defined: the ability to do something that frightens one.

Knowing defined: showing or suggesting that one has knowledge or awareness that is secret or known to only a few people; done in full awareness or consciousness.

Cares defined: serious attention or consideration applied to doing something correctly or to avoid damage or risk.

1. Examples of God's Care in Joshua 1-3

- A. Chapter 1 – the land promise
 - 1. v. 2 – the land of Canaan given to Israelites
 - 2. v. 5 – no man will be able to stand against them
 - 3. v. 6 – encouraging words
 - 4. v. 7 key – must observe all of God's commands
 - 5. v. 8 key – keeping God's Word handy
 - 6. v. 9 key – God with you if you are with Him
 - 7. v. 11 – prepare to conquer – all obedience requires preparation (2 Tim. 2:15)
- B. Chapter 2 – a visit with Rahab
 - 1. Kirk Brothers, FHU chapel – “The Rehab of Rahab”
 - 2. v. 1 – spy out the land
 - 3. v. 4 – she hid the men in her house
 - 4. v. 9 – she knew the Lord had given over the land. How did she know?
 - 5. v. 12 – remember her
 - 6. v. 15 key – she had to do her part with the scarlet cord.
 - 7. She is the 2nd of 2 females mentioned by name in Hebrews 11 (v. 31)
- C. Chapter 3 – crossing the Jordan
 - 1. v. 1 key – great men and women of God get up and get the job done
 - 2. v. 3 – involving the presence of God in plans – always involve God in your plans
 - 3. v. 7 – just as with Moses, God is with Joshua

4. v. 10 – shall know evidence manifested
5. v. 16 – walked through on dry ground

2. Other Examples of God's Care

- A. Matthew 6:25-34 – Sermon on the Mount
 1. Birds and lilies taken care of.
 2. Dan Jenkins: "I've never seen a skinny bird."
- B. Matthew 14:22-33 – Peter walking on the water
 1. All was fine until Peter took his eyes off Jesus.
 2. When the storms of life are raging, do we keep our eyes on Him?
- C. Luke 23:46 – "Into Thy Hands I Commend My Spirit"
 1. Quoting Psalm 31:5
 2. Jesus knew all too well the depths of God's care.

3. Lessons

I know O can have courage when I am:

- A. Obedient to all of God's commands.
 1. Old Testament: Exodus 19:8, 24:3, 24:7, Deut. 5:27, 26:17, Joshua 24:24
 2. New Testament: Matt. 10:22, Rev. 2:10
- B. Active in my service to the Lord.
 1. To cross the Jordan, they had to move.
 2. Rahab had to put the scarlet ribbon in her window.
 3. God has never wanted passive obedience – a Christian's life is always one of active service.
- C. Telling others about God's plan of salvation.
 1. Rahab had heard about God.
 2. Are we telling everyone we see about how to be obedient to God?

Take courage, dear Christian!

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