



PASTOR'S LESSON TO LIVE BY

**THE COURAGE TO KEEP GOING
WHEN YOU FEEL LIKE GIVING UP**

Life is hard! The fact is life doesn't always cooperate with our plans.

**THINGS GO WRONG - PEOPLE DISAPPOINT - PLANS FAIL - HEALTH DETERIORATES
PRAYERS ARE OFTEN NOT ANSWERED THE WAY WE WANT.**

After a major loss or disappointment, many just give up and shift into survival mode and settle for just existing. Some are so overwhelmed they just want to wait out the clock. But, there are others who seem to have amazing resilience. The Apostle Paul was one of those with that amazing resilience. Read (2 cor. 4:8-9).

So, what do we do about it? The first thing we should do, is **TELL GOD EXACTLY HOW WE FEEL**. Did you know that trusting God with your feelings, is an act of worship - not sin? Sinning is when you foolishly accuse God of doing you wrong. In all of Job's suffering he did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing.

***“Job stood up, tore his robe in grief, and shaved his head.
Then he fell to the ground and worshiped.”*** Job 1:20 GW

The next thing we must do is to **ACCEPT HELP FROM OTHERS**. God doesn't intend for us to handle **Pain** or **Sickness** or **Loss** or **Excessive Stress** by our self. One of our greatest faults is that too often we withdraw from others, and that is wrong.

“Encourage each other and give each other strength.” 1 Thes. 5:11 (NCV)

Please allow me to complete our Courage March with this summation.

**Stop asking “Why”.
Instead ask “What do I need to do?”**

Did you know that Job questioned God for 38 chapters before realizing he needed to shut up and listen? As Christians we must trust God in things we don't understand. We need to remind ourselves that **He is a Good and loving God**. Remember that **He is all powerful** and that **He knows every detail about our life**. Know that **God is in control** and that **He has a plan for every second of our life**. **He will protect us**. Job said, **“Though He slay me, I will trust in Him.”** (Job 13:5). Make certain that you **Refuse to become bitter**, and **Face Your future with Courage**.

**“We pray that you will be filled with HIS MIGHTY, GLORIOUS STRENGTH
so that you CAN KEEP GOING NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS -
ALWAYS FULL OF THE JOY OF THE LORD.”**

Col. 1:11 (LB)