**A Courageous Christian**

I want to talk to you today about being a courageous Christian.

In the book of Joshua, Moses had just died and God was speaking to Joshua about leading His people to the land that He had given them.

**Joshua 1:6-9**

**“Be strong and of good courage, for to this people you shall divide as an inheritance the land which I swore to their fathers to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you many prosper wherever you go.**

**This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.**

**Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage: do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”**

Joshua was just given a big job. He had to finish what Moses started. He had to listen to what God was telling him and put it into action. At this point, he was leading a whole company, like a CEO would do today. Their lives were in his hands. He just had to listen to God and act upon it.

How many of us today act on what God tells us to do? Have there been times that we could tell someone about Jesus but have backed away because of fear? A leader is someone who is courageous and will do what is right, regardless of the circumstances.

God is looking for leaders who will go out and preach the gospel to others so he widen the boarders of Heaven and welcome even more people into eternal life.

Fear is a major emotion that the Devil uses to stop people from becoming those leaders or from doing something courageous that will be glorying to God. Fear is described as an unpleasant emotion caused by the belief that someone or something is dangerous, likely to cause pain, or a threat.

In Matthew it describes Jesus walking onto the sea to the boat where the disciples were.

**Matthew 14:25-31**

**Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear, but immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, “Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid.”**

**And Peter answered Him and said, “Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water.” So He said, “Come.” And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, “Lord, save me!”**

**And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?”**

In this last chapter, Jesus is telling us that if we have faith, we can do many things. But if you allow fear to come into your life, you will lose your courage. Joshua didn’t allow fear to take over the circumstances as Peter did. Just as you can do today in the circumstances that may come your way. Remember to be courageous for Jesus, have strong faith and not let the fear of the circumstances get in your way.