

# WEEKLY GUIDE

JANUARY 31, 2021

## 1 ATTEND!

SUNDAYS  
(IN PERSON OR ONLINE)

### **BIBLE READINGS:**

Hebrews 11:33-38; Joshua 1:9; Philippians 1:14-21; James 1:2-4; 1 Peter 1:3-7; Psalm 22:5, 25:3; 56:3-4, 69:6, 71:7

### **JOSHUA 1:9**

*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.*

### **PSALM 56:3-4**

*Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You. In God, I will praise His word. In God I have put my trust; I will not fear. What can man do to me?*

### **PHILIPPIANS 1:14, 20-21**

*I want you to know, that the things which happened to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel, so that it has become evident to all that my chains are in Christ; And most of the believers having become confident by my chains, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. According to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.*

### **JAMES 1:2-4**

*Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.*

### **1 PETER 1:3-7**

*Who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ.*

## 2 TALK!

DISCUSS THE  
LESSONS

## 3 PRAY!

MAKE YOUR  
REQUESTS  
KNOWN TO GOD

## 4 DO!

PUT THE  
LESSONS INTO  
PRACTICE

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## TIME FOR REFLECTION:

1. Take some time to reflect on last week's lesson. Which lessons did you find most useful? How did you apply these lessons to your life? Did you encounter any difficulty? Any areas of victory?
2. What are you afraid of? Complete this phrase: When I am afraid of \_\_\_\_\_, I will trust in You, O Lord. What difference does it make to trust in God? In what ways do you put your confidence in God each day? Where are you in need of more courage? What areas of your life do you need to heed God's command to fear not?
3. Why do you think God commands us to be strong and courageous, to not be afraid? How is a command different than a suggestion or wishful thinking? What does this seem to suggest about courage? Is courage something that we have or is it something we do regardless of how we feel?
4. Why is courage not simply one of the virtues, but the form of every virtue at the testing point, as C.S. Lewis suggests? Why is courage necessary in order to practice all the other virtues consistently?
5. Where did the Apostle Paul find confidence in spite of his circumstances? How did his chains help others become more bold to speak the word without fear? How can someone's life have greater impact when they are going through a trial? What did Paul find to rejoice in? Why should we rejoice whenever we face trails of many kinds?
6. What should your expectation and hope be? Why does it matter that God will never allow you to be put to shame when you trust in Him? What does it mean for God to give you sufficient courage? Sufficient courage for what? How does this apply to both life and death?
7. What impacted you the most from the lesson today? What were your big takeaways? How will you put it into practice in your life this week?

## PRAYER REQUESTS:

1. Pray that you will have courage sufficient to face whatever comes during the next year.
2. Pray that our country would turn to God and experience national revival and awakening.
3. Pray for the peace and prosperity of our cities (Jeremiah 29:7).
4. Pray for our leaders to humble themselves, and pray, and seek God's face (2 Chronicles 7:14).
5. Pray for your neighbors, friends, and families to come to know Christ personally.
6. Pray for our nation would find it's trust again in God, like our national motto states.
7. Pray that the Church would advance the Gospel boldly without fear.

## THE REST OF THE WEEK:

1. Reach out. Share your faith with others. Encourage someone. Pray for someone.
2. Read God's Word and allow His Spirit to reveal, correct, and encourage you.
3. Practice intentional acts of kindness. Love without hypocrisy. Be merciful!
4. Take time for yourself. Do something that brings you joy. Be thankful!
5. Do something outside your comfort zone. Let God use you this week!
6. Spend time with God in prayer. Let God fill you with His Holy Spirit.
7. Invite someone to church... online or in person!

**MAKE 2021 YOUR BEST YEAR YET! HAVE A BLESSED WEEK!**

