



Winning

Part 2 – Be Strong

Discussion Guide

The hardest trials we face often occur when we don't see a path to success. We sometimes find ourselves going through difficulties with our jobs, our family situations, an illness, or loneliness. Yet we can't see how it could possibly end well. This week, we look at God's command to be strong and courageous, even when we don't see the path to success.

Jump Start

Leader: This section is designed to get discussions started, examine God's truth, and apply it to our week.

1. When is a time you have had to face your fears?
2. **Read [Joshua 1:6](#)**. Why did God choose Joshua? Why does He specifically tell him to be strong and courageous? What is leadership? Who do you have the opportunity to lead (or influence) in your daily life? Do you take advantage of your opportunities?
3. **Read [Joshua 1:7 and 2 Corinthians 12:8-9](#)**. What is the difference between courage and confidence? What mistakes or flaws do you have that limit your confidence? What are the areas of your life in which you lack confidence, but where know that you must move forward with courage?
4. **Read [Joshua 1:8-9](#)**. Why does God say the same thing to Joshua, "Be strong and courageous", three different times? Is being strong and courageous a choice? What do you have to do, give up, or change in order to be strong and courageous moving forward?
5. Final Thought: **Read [Romans 12:3-8](#)**. Why does God assign everyone different gifts and different amounts of faith? Does it mean that you are underqualified or "less than" if others have been given more than you? How has God gifted you? How can you use your gifts to build up the Church and others around you?

Deeper

Leader: This section is designed for further use in your Life Group or for personal study. These can also be used as discussion points and ways to stay connected with your group throughout the week.

This week, we talked about the difference between courage and confidence. Confidence is when we move forward, knowing we have the talents, intelligence, and ability to succeed. Courage is when we know we lack what we need or don't see a path to success, but we move forward anyway. Courage is much harder to have than confidence. Throughout history, people have stepped forward with courage, not because of their confidence, but because they knew God would come through. In this "Deeper," we look at a few of the most prominent moments of courage in the Bible.

6. **Read [Numbers 13:27-33 and 14:1-10](#)**. After seeing the dangers posed in the new land, why did Joshua and Caleb urge the people to go and conquer it? Have you ever known something had to be done, but only saw the danger? How did you respond?

7. **Read [Daniel 3:13-18 and Daniel 3:24-27](#)**. How did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego know they would be okay, even if they were thrown into the furnace? When have you stepped into a situation with no idea of how God would show up? What is the connection and difference between faith and courage?

8. **Read [Daniel 3:28-30 and Matthew 5:14-16](#)**. Why is having courage so important to God? To whom has your courage been a light? Who else could you encourage this week?