

## Walking in Command: Courageous

**John 14:15** *If ye love me, keep my commandments.*

We often say “it’s easier to do nothing but not better”. Life is made up a choices and while most are easy to make the ones that act as the catalyst can hold us hostage from advancing-

**Courage-** the ability to do something that is difficult or dangerous.

**Jesus the Courageous-** (NLT) **Luke 4:28-30** *When they heard this, the people in the synagogue were furious. 29 Jumping up, they mobbed him and took him to the edge of the hill on which the city was built. They intended to push him over the cliff, 30 but he slipped away through the crowd and left them.*

Walking in Command takes great courage. Courage displayed always leads to spoils gained.

**19. Resolve Your Differences-** (NLT) **Matt 18:15** *If another believer sins (trespass) against you, go privately and point out the fault. If the other person listens and confesses it, you have won that person back.*

### **Our Responsibility:**

**A. Keep the Matter Private-** **Matt 18:15** ....*go privately and point out the fault. If the other person listens and confesses it, you have won that person back.*

We must have a spirit of meekness and gentleness when we seek to restore a brother or sister- **Gal 6:1** *Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.*

We must not go about condemning the offender, or spreading gossip. The word *restore* in **Galatians 6:1** is a Greek medical word that means “to set a broken bone.” Think of the patience and tenderness that requires!

**B. We must ask others for help-** (NLT) **Matt 18:16** *But if you are unsuccessful, take one or two others with you and go back again, so that everything you say may be confirmed by two or three witnesses.*

We should share the facts as we see them and ask the brethren for their prayerful counsel. After all, it may be that we are wrong.

**(NLT) 1 Cor 6:1-6** *When you have something against another Christian, why do you file a lawsuit and ask a secular court to decide the matter, instead of taking it to other Christians to decide who is right? 2 Don't you know that someday we Christians are going to judge the world? And since you are going to judge the world, can't you decide these little things among yourselves? 3 Don't you realize that we Christians will judge angels? So you should surely be able to resolve ordinary disagreements here on earth. 4 If you have legal disputes about such matters, why do you go to outside judges who are not respected by the church? 5 I am saying this to shame you. Isn't there anyone in all the church who is wise enough to decide these arguments? 6 But instead, one Christian sues another — right in front of unbelievers!*

**C. We must ask the church for help-** **(NLT) Matt 18:17** *If that person still refuses to listen, take your case to the church. If the church decides you are right, but the other person won't accept it, treat that person as a pagan or a corrupt tax collector.*

Remember, our goal is not the winning of a case but the winning of a brother.

**(NLT) Titus 3:10** *If anyone is causing divisions among you, give a first and second warning. After that, have nothing more to do with that person.*

**1 Tim 5:20** *Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear.*

**We must know that our decisions are binding or freeing-** **(NLT) Matt 18:18** *I tell you this: Whatever you prohibit on earth is prohibited in heaven, and whatever you allow on earth is allowed in heaven.*

**We must know that Christ in the Mediator-** **(NLT) Matt 18:19-20** *"I also tell you this: If two of you agree down here on earth concerning anything you ask, my Father in heaven will do it for you. 20 For where two or three gather together because they are mine, I am there among them."*

**1 Cor 5:3-5** *For I verily, as absent in body, but present in spirit, have judged already, as though I were present, concerning him that hath so done this deed, 4 In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, 5 To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.*

**Have Courage-**

**20. Forgive every time-** **(NLT) Matt 18:21** *Then Peter came to him and asked, "Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?"*

**Our Responsibility- Matt 18:22** "No!" Jesus replied, "seventy times seven!"

**We must understand how great the debt we had- (NLT) Matt 18:23-34** "For this reason, the Kingdom of Heaven can be compared to a king who decided to bring his accounts up to date with servants who had borrowed money from him. 24 In the process, one of his debtors was brought in who owed him millions of dollars. 25 He couldn't pay, so the king ordered that he, his wife, his children, and everything he had be sold to pay the debt. 26 But the man fell down before the king and begged him, 'Oh, sir, be patient with me, and I will pay it all.' 27 Then the king was filled with pity for him, and he released him and forgave his debt. 28 "But when the man left the king, he went to a fellow servant who owed him a few thousand dollars. He grabbed him by the throat and demanded instant payment. 29 His fellow servant fell down before him and begged for a little more time. 'Be patient and I will pay it,' he pleaded. 30 But his creditor wouldn't wait. He had the man arrested and jailed until the debt could be paid in full. 31 "When some of the other servants saw this, they were very upset. They went to the king and told him what had happened. 32 Then the king called in the man he had forgiven and said, 'You evil servant! I forgave you that tremendous debt because you pleaded with me. 33 Shouldn't you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?' 34 Then the angry king sent the man to prison until he had paid every penny.

**We must understand our forgiveness is connected to forgiving- Matt 18:35** "That's what my heavenly Father will do to you if you refuse to forgive your brothers and sisters in your heart."

**Have Courage-**

**21. Learn to Serve- Matthew 20:26** But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them.

**Our Responsibility- Matt 20:26-28** ...But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; 27 And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: 28 Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

**We Must Understand that true greatness is not wrapped in a title or position.** Empowerment comes from character.

**We must Wash Someone's Feet- John 13:14-17** If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. 16 Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is

*sent greater than he that sent him. 17 If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.*

- a. **Be willing to make the journey for others easier through serving.**  
There is not much more rewarding in a life than to help someone else fulfill their dream. In God we have the capacity to be dream fulfillers. Allowing God to use us to touch and move another.
- b. **Show equality with those you walk with-** God who is not a respecter of persons requires us to be like Him. We shouldn't put ourselves on pedestals as if people should attend to our greatness, but we should raise people up so we may serve the greatness in them.

**We must commit ourselves to promotion and comfort of others.** Live to make others better. When we promote others we are promoted by God.

**(NLT) Matt 25:31-40** *"But when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit upon his glorious throne. 32 All the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he will separate them as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 He will place the sheep at his right hand and the goats at his left. 34 Then the King will say to those on the right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. 35 For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. 36 I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.' 37 "Then these righteous ones will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 Or a stranger and show you hospitality? Or naked and give you clothing? 39 When did we ever see you sick or in prison, and visit you?' 40 And the King will tell them, 'I assure you, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!"*

**22. Keep Control of Yourself- (NLT) Matt 16:24** *Then Jesus said to the disciples, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must put aside your selfish ambition, shoulder your cross, and follow me.*

**Our Responsibility- Matt. 16:25-27** *If you try to keep your life for yourself, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for me, you will find true life. 26 And how do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul in the process? Is anything worth more than your soul?*

**Luke 9:23-25** *And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. 24 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same*

*shall save it. 25 For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away?*

**We must learn to say no, when the call of a greater yes is in your life.** Choices are what determine eternity. Making the right choices will lead to a greater tomorrow, the wrong one, not so good tomorrow.

- a. **Learning that self control is the master aptitude.** We must always understand that we are in control of us. The way we respond to our life around us is under our ability. A gain over time can be lost in a moment.

**Close:**

**Courage to Continue- Acts 14:19-22** *And there came thither certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium, who persuaded the people, and, having stoned Paul, drew him out of the city, supposing he had been dead. 20 Howbeit, as the disciples stood round about him, he rose up, and came into the city: and the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe. 21 And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch, 22 Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.*

“Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts”.-[Winston Churchill](#)