



Courageously Walking Among The Terrible or Cowardly Terrorizing Others?

We must decide our intention. Will we walk courageously among the terrible or cowardly terrorize others? Read the scripture, Dr. Angelou's thoughts on courage and answer the questions.

Joshua 1:1-9

1 After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' aide: **2** "Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them--to the Israelites. **3** I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. **4** Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates--all the Hittite country--to the Great Sea on the west. **5** No one will be able to stand up against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. **6** "Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their forefathers to give them. **7** Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. **8** Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. **9** Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

"And she taught me by being courageous herself. And after years of leaving her and, I think, becoming courageous, I realized that one isn't born with courage. One develops it.

And you develop it by doing small, courageous things, in the same way that one wouldn't set out to pick up 100 pound bag of rice. If that was one's aim, the person would be advised to pick up a five pound bag, and then a ten pound, and then a 20 pound, and so forth, until one builds up enough muscle to actually pick up 100 pounds. And that's the same way with courage.

You develop courage by doing courageous things, small things, but things that cost you some exertion-- mental and, I suppose, spiritual exertion." --Dr. Maya Angelou

Respond to the questions:

1. What small acts of courage must I take in my current relationships?
 - a. Is there a truth I must tell? Is there someone I to whom I must apologize?
2. Devon said, "We must pay is due to others, or we will go broke trying to demand what we believe is due to us." What debt of love do I believe is due to me? What love do I owe others?
 - a. Who do I owe love to today?
3. What do I have to gain by taking the small acts of courage I listed above? What have I gained from being courageous before?
 - a. How will being courageous help me reach a larger goal, beyond this moment?