

# UNCOMMON COURAGE

## Uncommon Courage

### The Courage to Slow Down

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October 8-9, 2022

If you would like to watch the weekend message, visit [www.saddleback.com/watch](http://www.saddleback.com/watch).

Open your group in prayer and remember that this is only a guide. Feel free to discuss each of the provided questions in the message notes, or simply dive deeper into just one. Before you close with prayer, take a few minutes to look over the Three Essential Questions toward the end of the document.

### Passages: Joshua 3:17 (NIV); Joshua 4:1-24 (NIV)

1. We normally associate courage with action. How does taking time to slow down and wait build courage? Share an instance in your spiritual journey where you practiced the pause and calmed the heart. How did that affect your relationship with God?
2. Talk about a time when you were unaware of God's hand in a circumstance until well after the fact. When you pause and take note of what's happening around you today, is there an unexpected person, event, or place where you see God working?
3. Most of us experience life hurrying from one activity to another. Share something that is pressing in on you that could benefit from a push back.
4. Observing the sabbath seems counterintuitive. Taking a day off once a week, reminds us that it's okay not answering emails, checking texts, etc. How does practicing the sabbath help us to put God first and regain balance?
5. Why was it important for the leader of each tribe to take a stone from the middle of the Jordan river, after their whole nation had finished crossing? What did it signify to have twelve stones? Why do we also need these stones of remembrance of the fulfillment of God's promises in our walk with him? What is your faith story that can help you build and personalize your stone garden?
6. Look back on God's history of working in your life and of those around you. Share some things that stand out for you. How does keeping a gratitude journal to remember God's acts of faithfulness affect your courage to obey?

## Three Essential Questions

The following questions are intended to be open-ended and encourage members to consider how they felt and what they, or the group, can do as a result of hearing the message.

1. What did you hear? *What point in this message was most impactful for you?*
2. What do you think? *How did this message challenge, change, or affirm your thinking?*
3. What will you do? *How will you or your group put into practice what you've learned today?*

## Small Group Action Steps

1. Consider taking the Group Health Assessment in your small group. This assessment will help you see how your small group is balancing the five purposes and will give you suggested next steps for each purpose. Click here to take the Group Health Assessment:

<https://saddleback.com/connect/smallgroups#spiritualCheckup>

2. Did you know that Saddleback produces many new small group studies each year? Visit <https://saddleback.com/studies> to check out Saddleback's ever-growing library of small group curriculum.

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Are you interested in the Bible and in helping small groups benefit from the weekend message? Well, you are in luck! Saddleback members like you create these discussion guides each week. If you are interested in joining the team, please email [Maturity@saddleback.com](mailto:Maturity@saddleback.com)