

Uncommon Courage

The Courage to Keep Going Pastor Andy Wood October 15-16, 2022

If you would like to watch the weekend message, visit 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.

- 1. Joshua and Caleb were old men In Joshua 13:1 and 14:10-12, yet much land that the Lord had promised to the Israelites remained to be conquered. How did the Lord's promise to give them the land help Joshua and Caleb take fresh courage to keep going and finish well?
- 2. Philippians 2:12-13 says that "it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure." Discuss how working from God's eternal purposes can help you find the courage to advance on God's promises.
- 3. God says in Ezekiel 36:26, "I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart." How might the enemy of apathy lead you to fail to advance on God's purposes? Discuss where you could use some fresh courage and where apathy is keeping you from acting on God's promises.
- 4. Peter said in 2 Peter 1:3, "Jesus has the power of God. His power has given us everything we need to live and to serve God." How can the enemy of entitlement cause you to fail to advance by keeping you focused on what you don't have? Discuss how you'll work better with God's limitless resources by developing the resources that you do have.
- 5. God has placed you where you are now and given you abilities, gifts, and experiences (your SHAPE). Which ones have you overlooked and not used for His glory?
- 6. In the Great Commandment, Jesus called believers to "love God" and "love your neighbor as yourself." In the Great Commission, Jesus called believers to "make disciples of all nations." How can you work from God's five greater purposes of worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry, and mission? What purpose are you avoiding that you should be addressing?

7. Fear is such a powerful enemy and keeps us from seeing what is possible and from addressing things we need to do, issues we need to move past, and relationships we need to focus on. Discuss this with your group and encourage each other in prayer to address and move past any fears.

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.