

Digging Deeper During the Week!

Standing up for Jesus means we will boldly speak up for Him when others try to silence us! *Living out your faith is about being a living witness – one who speaks boldly and confidently about Jesus!*

Monday Jesus Set the Example for Boldness! 17-Mar John 7.14-31

Jesus demonstrates how boldness works. As we read today's passage, let's ask God to show us how we, too, can be bold in our witness.

- Teaching at the feast, Jesus points out the importance of living out the will of God. Jesus makes some key details for following the will of God (18-19, 24). What are they? How do they affect life-direction when applied?
- Such boldness was not missed by those who listened to him speak. Jesus admits that bold people face a clear danger. What does he say this danger is? From your understanding, was Jesus willing to accept the danger? What is the connection between boldness and danger?

Tuesday Faith Empowers Us to Bold! 18-Mar Ephesians 3.8-13

Boldness has a power source and it is our faith in Jesus. This passage demonstrates how the power to witness flows abundantly from Christ.

- Boldness allows us to proclaim the wonders of life in Christ. Paul describes these wonders in this passage. What are those wonders (8-9)? What does God intend to happen as we share and proclaim these wonders (10-11)?
- Again, the source of our boldness is Jesus Christ! In this text the Bible describes both a gift and a gateway to more. What are these as described here (12)? Again, boldness is linked to danger. What does Paul, the author of this letter, say is happening in his life?

Wednesday Salvation's Access Provides Boldness! 19-Mar Hebrews 10.19-25

Boldness allows us to come into God's presence and receive the many things God wants to provide for us as we witness for him each day.

- What has Jesus done for us, according to this passage that has brought access to God (19-21)? There are three reasons given that create a boldness inside of us causing us to want to come to God (22). What are they? How would these motivate you to draw near?

"I am focusing all my energies on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead." **Philippians 3:13 (NLT)**

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- There are two specific actions that flow from our newfound boldness (23-25). What are they? How could these actions transform our spiritual life and the lives of other God-followers?

Thursday Faithfulness to God Produces Boldness! 20-Mar 1 Timothy 3.8-13

Character is a key to your boldness. In this passage about the servants of the church – deacons – we discover that time can increase boldness.

- What are the character issues required for one to serve the church as a deacon (8-9, 11-12)? As you review these issues, what do these things reap when practiced over a longer period of time?
- Boldness grows as we practice the issues of character over time. These character issues will be tested. How does this truth provide greater boldness in your life (10, 13)?

Friday Comfort From Others Bolsters Our Boldness! 21-Mar 2 Corinthians 7.1-7

Boldness fortifies our lives for witness and ministry even when things are not going well. We can learn much as Paul testifies to his experience.

- Again, character begets boldness. See how Paul explains this here in this Scripture text. What are the character issues Paul explores in this passage and how do they transform a heart and life (1-3)?
- Paul uses several words to describe the negative situation he is currently in. What are these terms and what do they imply about his situation (4-5)? How does boldness strengthen him in these (6-7)?

Saturday Godly Examples Boost Our Boldness! 22-Mar Philippians 1.12-18

Our witness in the midst of our troubles, when infused with a Christ-like character, can inspire others to boldness.

- Even though our initial response and report of the calamities in our lives may be negative, time and character often show God's plans to us. As we bear up with much godliness, what effect can we have on others who are watching us (12-14)?
- While not everyone will model our Christ-likeness, as we become the inspiration for others, what should be our motivation in such situations concerning the witness of others?

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