

Character Trait for January 28 – February 1 is Boldness (courage)

Ephesians 5:1, "Therefore, be imitators of God"

CHARACTER: qualities built into our lives that determine our responses, regardless of circumstances.

Boldness: The confidence to do or say what is true, right and just.

Weekly Verse: "Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong." 1 Cor. 16:13

Bible Story: We read in 1 Samuel 17 how God gave David courage to slay Goliath.

Quote: "Down through the centuries in times of trouble and trial God has brought courage to the hearts of those who love Him. The Bible is filled with assurances of God's help and comfort in every kind of trouble which might cause fears to arise in the human heart. You can look ahead with promise, hope, and joy."

Leadership:

When we read the story of David killing Goliath, we often focus on David's courage, but it was the result of his confidence in a powerful wise, loving God. The Bible says that after Samuel anointed him with oil, "the spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David." If we try to emulate David's attitude, our confidence in God will produce the courage to face any giant in our lives.

Application: There are times in our lives when we need someone to say to us "take courage". The scriptures remind us of the truth behind the phrase "take courage":

- God himself is with us: Joshua 1:9
- God has a plan for us: Acts 23:11
- Jesus has overcome the world: John 16:33
- Nothing can separate us from God's love: Romans 8:38-39
- God himself will strengthen us: Isaiah 12:2

Discussion Questions:

1. Why did David think he could take on the giant, when none of the Israelite soldiers were brave enough to fight him?
2. Was David's confidence in his own abilities, or in God?
3. Who won the battle?
4. What kind of battles do you fight each day?