



“The Courage of Jesus”

Lesson by Ray Reynolds (11-8-14)

Gulf Coast Men's Retreat

Introduction: One of the most fruitful studies a person can do is to dig into the life of Christ. Jesus was the greatest person to walk the face of the earth. For those who walk with Christ, we are constantly trying to follow His great example (**Ephesians 4:13, I Peter 2:21-25**). I would like for us to consider how Jesus was courageous when He walked this earth. In studying His story we will learn more about Christ and we will learn more about ourselves. Let's study together...

Discussion:

I. Jesus Showed His Courage By Coming Into This World (Luke 1:26-38)

What was the burden of Jesus coming into this world? **Luke 1:31-33, John 1:29**

How difficult was the task of living a perfect life? **Hebrews 10:1-16, I Peter 2:21-25**

Why did Jesus refuse to break the laws of God? **Matthew 5:17, Colossians 2:13-15**

II. Jesus Showed His Courage By Doing What Was Right (Luke 2:41-52)

What was the significance of this event? **Exodus 12:1-13, John 2:12-25, Luke 22:1-38**

At an early age Jesus made a commitment to be courageous. What other Bible characters come to mind when you see His courage?

What can we learn from his relationship with His mother? **Luke 2:52, John 2:1-11**

III. Jesus Showed His Courage By Performing Great Miracles (Luke 4:40-41)

Jesus said and did many things that got Him into trouble. His hometown synagogue even tried to throw him off a cliff! Why? What would you do? **Luke 4:28-30**

Why are we not given all of this in the Scriptures? **John 20:30-31, John 21:25**

Luke chapter 8 alone records many courageous miracles. What can we learn from them?

1. **Luke 8:22-25** - Jesus stills the storm
2. **Luke 8:26-39** - Jesus heals a demonic
3. **Luke 8:40-48** - Jesus heals a hemorrhaging woman
4. **Luke 8:49-56** - Jesus raises Jarius' daughter from the dead

How did the people respond to Jesus? Did that deter Him? Explain.

IV. Jesus Showed His Courage By Cleansing The Temple (Luke 19:45-20:8)

The gospels tells us that Jesus had to overcome many obstacles just to get to temple that day.

Would you have given up before then? **Mark 10:46-11:19**

How would you feel if you witnessed these events? **John 2:13-17, Ephesians 4:26**

What fears do you think the apostles had at this time? Is this outside their comfort zone?

V. Jesus Showed His Courage By Dying on the Cross (Luke 23:26-49)

Consider the things Jesus had to overcome before He got to the cross. When would you quit?

He was betrayed by a close friend. **Luke 22:1-47**

He was arrested and deserted by all of His friends. **Luke 22:47-54**

He was denied by another one of His friends, face to face. **Luke 22:55-62**

He was blindfolded, mocked, beaten, spit upon and humiliated. **Luke 22:63-71**

He faced many illegal trials and the crowd chose to crucify Him. **Luke 23:1-25**

He was forced to carry His own cross. **Luke 23:26-33**

Could you forgive your accusers, betrayers, murderers, and enemies? Explain.

Jesus was aware of His mission and He intended on doing God's will... no matter the cost.

Are you willing to have that kind of resolution? **Matthew 26:39, Mark 10:45**

Conclusion: Jesus was brave in many different ways. When you consider these events AND His temptation, His persecution by the Jewish leaders, His decision to raise Lazarus from the dead, His own triumph over death, etc., we still have so much to learn from Him (**Philippians 2:5-18**). Are you ready to be courageous? Look to Jesus as your great example!