

Joy Without Limits :
The Joy of Courage
GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST
Sermon by Ray Reynolds

Text : Deuteronomy 31:6

Introduction: We are studying a series of lessons on the subject of joy. We know that Jesus commanded His disciples to be joyful. **John 15:11** says, “*These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.*” We need Christian soldiers that are not afraid to stand up for what they know is right. The Bible has many good characters that exemplify a life of courage. . . .

Discussion:

I. We Need Courage Like Abraham

- He left his hometown and his family (**Genesis 12**).
- He saved the household of Lot (**Genesis 18**).
- He was willing to sacrifice his precious son (**Genesis 22**).

II. We Need Courage Like Micaiah

- He was hated by Ahab (**I Kings 22:8**).
- He mocked king Ahab (**I Kings 22:15**).
- He rebuked the king (**I Kings 22:17**).

III. We Need Courage Like Esther

- She assumed the role of queen (**Esther 2**).
- She listened to Mordecai (**Esther 4**).
- She went before the king (**Esther 5**).
- She stood up to Haman (**Esther 7**).

IV. We Need Courage Like Jesus

- He stood toe to toe with the devil (**Matthew 4**).
- He rebuked the Pharisees & Sadducees (**Matthew 23**).
- He defeated death (**I Corinthians 15**).
- He is a fearless leader (**Hebrews 12:1-2**).

Conclusion: Cowardice robs Christians of joy. Sometimes you have to take risks for the truth. Joy will come when we find ourselves more committed to God and the cause of Christ. Each child of God should drink from the well of joy! Will you be afraid?