

**Restoring the Broken
Courage
Nehemiah 2,3**

“Courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the assessment that something else is more important than fear. — Franklin D. Roosevelt

What steps do men and women of courage take?

1. They _____ – 1:4-11

Why? Because they are devoted (selfless affection and zeal to someone.)

1.1. _____ - He was not satisfied with mediocracy

1.1.1. Wept – What makes you weep often indicates character.

1.1.2. Mourned

1.1.3. Fasted

1.1.4. Prayed

1.2. _____ – Is wanting something bad enough

Sometimes God delays an answer to remind us that He is in charge of timing and not us.

1A. Problem – 2:1-4a Fear of _____

Failure meant death! Take about real fear!

Nehemiah risked and spoke up!

2. They _____ -2:4b-9

Why? – Because he made a decision. You need to make up your mind

Nehemiah was courageous, but he wasn't careless.

There is a difference between acting courageously and carelessly.

People will follow you if you are wrong. They will not follow if you are unclear.

Winston Churchill

To restore the broken you need to be a planner not one that is fearful.

Which ones best describe you?

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 2.1. Planners _____; | fearful is emotional |
| 2.2. Planners feed off information; | fearful feed off of _____. |
| 2.3. Planners calculate risk; | fearful play it safe |
| 2.4. Planners seek _____; | fearful avoid failure |
| 2.5. Planners look at progress; | fearful look to _____ |

2A. Problem – 2:10 Fear of _____

The Devil loves you broken because he hates you.

Some of you do not sense any spiritual opposition because you are not a threat!

3. They are _____ – 2:11-18

Why? Because he defined his dream. (His vision)

You were created with purpose. Do you know your purpose in life?

Get rid of your nightmares and let God give you a dream again that you can pursue!

3A. Problem – 2:19 Fear of _____ – (Being misunderstood)

Notice that they attack Nehemiah's motives without any substantiation.

4. They _____ – 2:20

Why? – So, they can dispel all doubt!

He was intolerant to sin and was not afraid to separate from those who took away from the glory of God.

He didn't look for a way around but took on his foes head on.

To proclaim means to lay it on the line so that there is no way back.

5. They _____ – 3

Why? – Because they are dedicated; meaning they have self-sacrificing devotion.

There are forty-two sections in all.

They are listed in order, counter clock wise.

They acted. They were more than just belief, they put their beliefs into practice.

6. Problem – 3:5 Fear of “_____”

The cause of restoring the broken was not more important than their comfort.

Application:

What does it take to restore the broken? Courage!

1. They pray

Courage begins with an _____ battle – It isn't an absence of fear, but rather the assessment that something else is more important than fear.

Is your desire to restore the broken more important than fear?
Fear of friends? Fear of foes? Fear of fallacy? Fear of failure?

2. They plan

Courage is going from failure to failure without losing _____. - Churchill
There is a difference between failing and quitting.

When you make up your mind you follow the plan, and when you fail, you confess and press on.

3. They are purposed

"To be discouraged is _____, as to God's purpose and plan of blessing for you.

Do you know your purpose and what is your dream?

4. They proclaim

Courage _____ others to make commitments.

Are you willing to be an example for others to follow?

5. They participate

Spiritual courage brings a new level of life. "Fear not that your life will come to an end but that it will never have a beginning." – John Henry Newman, British Theologian. It is interesting to note that those who move forward with courage and those who don't experience the same amount of fear in life. The difference is in the quality of spiritual life and the results. I often find those who move on without courage are consumed with the trivial and filled with worry.

Are you in or out?

"Courage is being scared to death... and saddling up anyway." – John Wayne