



Be Strong and Courageous: Choosing to Serve the Lord

Life presents us with daily challenges that require strength and courage to overcome. Just as Joshua led the Israelites into the Promised Land, we too must face our battles with unwavering faith. This presentation explores God's commandment to "be strong and of good courage" and how choosing to serve the Lord empowers us to face life's challenges.

Drawing from the Book of Joshua, we'll discover how courage, faith, and commitment to God's word can transform our lives and the lives of those around us. When we choose to serve the Lord, we position ourselves and our households to receive His blessings and protection.

J by James Allen

The Call to Courage



Be Strong

Face life's challenges with spiritual strength



Of Good Courage

Maintain a positive outlook despite difficulties



Very Courageous

Stand firm in your faith when opposition intensifies



Trust God's Presence

"The Lord your God will be with you wherever you go"

Throughout the Book of Joshua, God repeatedly commands Joshua to "be strong and of good courage" and to be "very courageous." This wasn't just casual advice—it was a divine imperative. God knew the challenges Joshua and the Israelites would face required extraordinary courage. Similarly, navigating today's world demands spiritual strength and courage that can only come from trusting in God's presence and promises.



Courage for Daily Battles



Morning Courage

Finding strength to face each new day despite uncertainty



Social Courage

Standing firm when facing conflict, gossip, or negativity



Workplace Courage

Maintaining integrity in environments that challenge your faith



Family Courage

Leading your household in godly principles despite cultural pressures

"Have you ever had to have a self-talk with yourself just to get out the door? How many times have you had to go someplace knowing someone was waiting to start some mess, carry a tale, or create conflict?" Life requires courage in countless everyday situations. Just as Joshua needed courage to lead the Israelites into battle, we need courage to face our daily challenges with faith rather than fear.



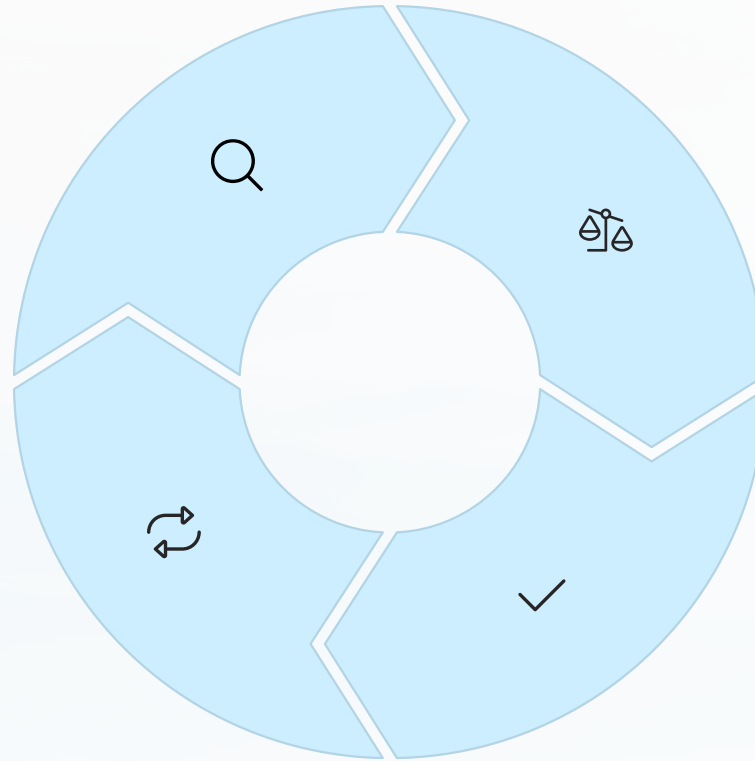
Choose You This Day

Recognize the Choice

Acknowledge that every day presents a decision about who you will serve

Renew Daily

Recommit to your choice through daily devotion and action



Evaluate the Options

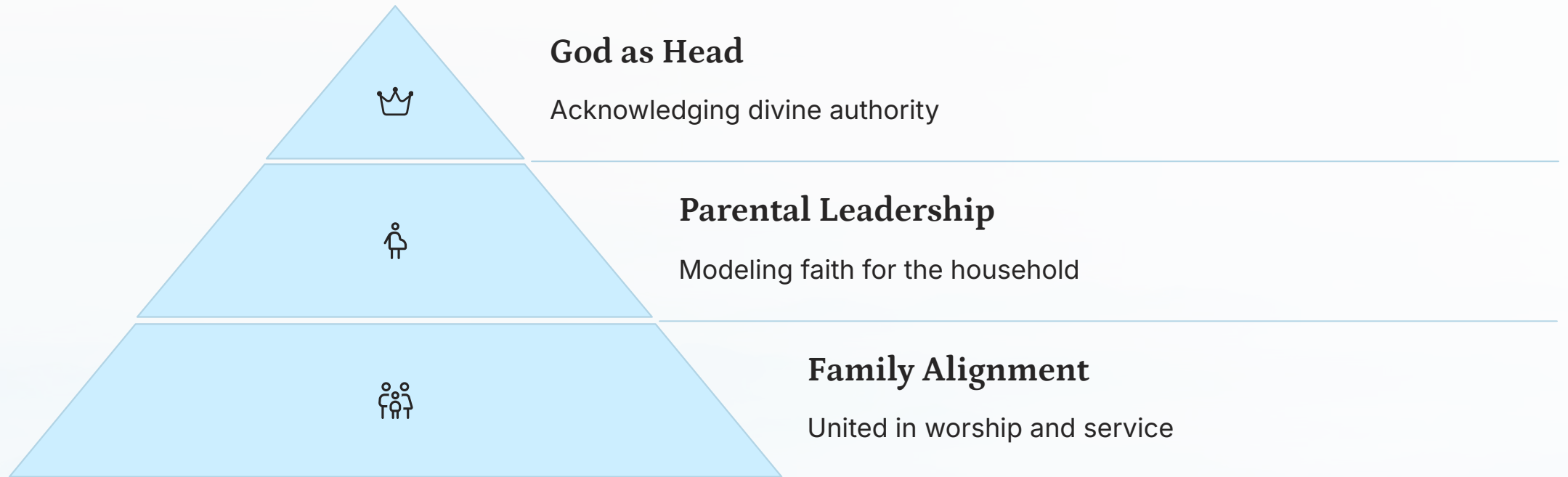
Consider what the world offers versus what God provides

Make the Decision

Deliberately choose to serve the Lord above all else

Joshua's powerful declaration, "Choose you this day whom you will serve," remains one of the most consequential challenges in scripture. This choice isn't made once and forgotten—it's a daily commitment. When we reflect on all God has brought us through, the decision becomes clear. "Did the world step up and help you? Did the rich and famous throw you a lifeline? Did the gods of this world pull you through? I dare say NO! God did it! God did it for you!"

As For Me and My House



When Joshua declared, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord," he established a powerful principle of spiritual leadership. This statement reflects the understanding that "if you live under my roof, you are going to live by my rules." Spiritual leaders must take responsibility for guiding their households in godly ways. "I've got to serve Him if I want my children protected from the evils of this old world! I got to be right if I want those I love to be right."

A household united in serving God creates a sanctuary of faith, protection, and blessing that impacts generations to come. When we choose God, we position our families to experience His provision and protection.

Transformation Through Service

Renewed Mind

"Be not conformed to this world but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind." When we serve God, He blesses us with a transformed perspective that clarifies our purpose in His kingdom.

Divine Protection

God protects those who choose to serve Him. Like Joshua and the Israelites, we can trust that God will fight our battles when we remain faithful to Him.

Kingdom Purpose

God "uses the redeemed to help others open their spiritual eyes so that the blind can see." Our service to God extends beyond ourselves to impact others.

When we choose to serve the Lord, transformation follows. The Apostle Paul calls us to "present yourself a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God which is your reasonable service." This dedication leads to a renewed mind, divine protection, and a clear purpose in God's kingdom. Just as God fulfilled His covenant promises to the Israelites by delivering the Promised Land, He fulfills His promises to us when we faithfully serve Him.

Standing Against Opposition

Face Opposition

"When people decide to not follow God and come against the people of God, we have to remember that they are but flesh, just as we are."



Wait on God

"You be still and watch the salvation of the Lord. For He will deliver unto them the reward for their actions."



Respond with Prayer

"Don't get mad at them, Don't curse them, instead pray for them. Because they may just get the benefit of your prayer and see the light before it's too late!"



Witness Victory

"This is what the Lord will do to all the enemies you are going to fight."



Opposition is inevitable when we choose to serve God. Joshua faced numerous enemies as he led the Israelites, but God consistently delivered victory. When we face those who oppose our faith, we must remember that our battle isn't against flesh and blood. Rather than responding with anger or retaliation, we're called to be "strong and of good courage" while allowing God to fight our battles.

The Eternal Promise

1

Covenant

God's unbreakable promise of salvation
to all who believe

2

Kingdom

The eternal inheritance awaiting those
who remain faithful

3

Glory

"Things we cannot even imagine awaits
those who are strong and very
courageous!"

Just as God delivered the Promised Land to the Israelites, fulfilling His covenant with Abraham, He has promised an eternal kingdom to those who place their faith in Jesus Christ. "God covenanted with the world that whosoever believes in Jesus as the Son of God and confessed it with their mouth and believed it in their hearts shall be saved."

When life's challenges make us weary, we must remember that "Christ has your best interests at heart and He has given His life for your salvation." The courage to persevere comes from fixing our eyes on the eternal promise that awaits us—"streets of gold, singing, and praising, banquets and things that eyes have not seen and ears have not heard!"