



# RCCG OCEANIA

Faith & Trust

## THE TEST OF COURAGE AND COMPLACENCY

### AT A GLANCE

#### BIG IDEA

In the journey of faith, courage is the first step to becoming a trailblazer. However, success can be a greater threat than failure if it leads to complacency. By examining the lives of biblical figures like Gideon and Abraham, we learn the importance of maintaining spiritual momentum and continuously seeking God's guidance.

#### PRIMARY PASSAGES

Judges 6

Isaiah 51:1-2

Deuteronomy 20:1-4

Philippians 3:12

2 Timothy 1:7

## KEY TAKEAWAYS

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- Courage is essential for advancement in life and ministry.
- Success can lead to complacency if not managed carefully.
- Inquiry into the reasons behind success or failure is crucial for sustainable growth.
- Fear is not from God and must be overcome with power, love, and a sound mind.
- Spiritual disciplines should be maintained even after achieving success.

## INTRODUCTION

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In the journey of faith, courage and inquiry are essential to overcoming complacency and sustaining spiritual momentum. The lives of biblical figures such as Gideon and Abraham provide valuable lessons on how to navigate success and failure while maintaining a steadfast pursuit of God's guidance.

## SCRIPTURE READING

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- **Judges 6** — Gideon's story illustrates the test of courage and the danger of being distracted by initial success.
- **Isaiah 51:1-2** — Abraham is highlighted as an example of God's blessing and increase.
- **Deuteronomy 20:1-4** — Emphasizes the importance of courage when facing greater adversaries.
- **Philippians 3:12** — Paul's continuous pursuit of growth is a model for sustaining momentum.
- **2 Timothy 1:7** — Explains that fear must be overcome with divine power, love, and a sound mind.

## KEY POINTS

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1. **FACE THE FEAR** — Courage is the first step in overcoming fear and advancing in life and ministry. Gideon's story in Judges 6 exemplifies this principle. Despite his initial fear, Gideon trusted in God's promise and took action against the Midianites. This demonstrates that courage is not the absence of fear but the willingness to act in faith despite it.
  - Identify an area in your life where fear is holding you back.
  - Pray for courage and take a step of faith in that area.
  - Reflect on past experiences where courage led to positive outcomes.

Scripture: **Judges 6**

## KEY POINTS (CONT.)

**2. SUSTAIN MOMENTUM** — Initial success should not lead to complacency. It is crucial to maintain spiritual disciplines and continue to seek God's guidance. Paul, in Philippians 3:12, emphasizes the importance of pressing on towards the goal, illustrating that the journey of faith is ongoing and requires continuous effort.

- Evaluate your current spiritual disciplines and identify areas for improvement.
- Set new spiritual goals to keep your faith journey dynamic.
- Seek accountability from a trusted friend or mentor.

Scripture: **Philippians 3:12**

## KEY POINTS (CONT.)

**3. AVOID COMPLACENCY** — Success can be more dangerous than failure if it leads to complacency. Abraham's life, as highlighted in Isaiah 51:1-2, shows that God's blessings are meant to propel us forward, not to make us stagnant. Approach success with the mindset that the journey is ongoing and there is always more to achieve in God's plan.

- Reflect on recent successes and consider how they can be used for further growth.
- Pray for humility and a continuous desire to seek God's will.
- Challenge yourself to step out of your comfort zone regularly.

Scripture: [Isaiah 51:1-2](#)

## KEY POINTS (CONT.)

**4. INQUIRY FOR ADVANCEMENT** — Asking questions about why success or failure occurs is crucial for sustainable growth and advancement. Deuteronomy 20:1-4 encourages us to face adversities with courage, but also with understanding. By inquiring into our experiences, we can learn valuable lessons that guide future decisions.

- Analyze a recent success or failure and identify key factors that contributed to the outcome.
- Discuss your findings with a group to gain different perspectives.
- Implement changes based on your insights to improve future outcomes.

Scripture: Deuteronomy 20:1-4

## KEY POINTS (CONT.)

**5. OVERCOME FEAR** — Fear is not from God and must be overcome with power, love, and a sound mind, as emphasized in 2 Timothy 1:7. This scripture reminds us that God equips us with the necessary tools to face our fears and move forward with confidence.

- Memorize 2 Timothy 1:7 and meditate on it when feeling fearful.
- Identify practical ways to demonstrate power, love, and a sound mind in your daily life.
- Share your experiences of overcoming fear with others to encourage them.

Scripture: 2 Timothy 1:7

## GROUP DISCUSSION

Tip: Use these questions to guide the group from seeing → understanding → applying.

## OBSERVATION

- What specific fears did Gideon face in Judges 6?
- How did Abraham's life exemplify God's blessing and increase?
- What does Deuteronomy 20:1-4 say about facing adversaries?
- How does Paul describe his pursuit of growth in Philippians 3:12?

## INTERPRETATION

- Why is courage essential for advancement in life and ministry?
- In what ways can success lead to complacency?
- How can inquiry into success or failure lead to sustainable growth?
- What does it mean to overcome fear with power, love, and a sound mind?

## APPLICATION

- How can you apply Gideon's example of courage in your own life?
- What steps can you take to avoid complacency after achieving success?
- How can you incorporate inquiry into your spiritual and personal growth?
- What practical actions can you take to overcome fear in your daily life?

## PRAYER FOCUS

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- Pray for courage to face fears and take steps of faith.
- Ask for guidance to maintain spiritual momentum and avoid complacency.
- Seek wisdom to learn from both successes and failures.
- Pray for a heart that continuously seeks God's will and purpose.

## NEXT STEP

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Reflect on areas of complacency in your spiritual life and take actionable steps to reignite your faith journey.

## CONCLUSION

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Courage and inquiry are vital components in overcoming complacency and sustaining spiritual momentum. By learning from biblical figures like Gideon and Abraham, we can navigate the challenges of success and failure, ensuring that our journey of faith remains dynamic and aligned with God's purpose.