

Courage to Confess

Introduction

Read the following or relate it in your own words.

Courage is an essential ingredient for a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ. His followers need courage each and every day to do right, whether to face peer pressure, or to confess to wrongdoing, or even to confess when forgetfulness or disobedience leads to unfortunate consequences, as in Sarah's case.

The Scripture

Read the Scripture to the group.

“Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.” —Psalm 27:14

A Real Life Example

Read the following or relate it in your own words.

Sarah's Courage

Sarah felt terrible. She knew that what she had done was wrong. She was really sorry for what she had done. Closing her eyes she softly prayed, “Dear Jesus, please forgive me for not obeying. I should have done what Mom said right away. Help me to do better. Amen.”

Sarah felt a little bit better, but she knew that there was something else that she needed to do as well. She went to find her mom, and found her in the laundry room sorting clothes. Sarah took a deep breath, “Mom,” she said quietly, “I need to tell you something.”

Mom looked up, “Hi, Sarah,” she smiled. “What do you need?”

A tear rolled down Sarah's cheek. Mom stooped to give her a hug, “What's wrong, honey?”

Sarah sighed, “Remember when you asked me to feed the fish? I didn't do it right away, and then I forgot . . .” Sarah paused, “Mom, they died!”

Mom looked sad as Sarah continued, “Mom, I asked Jesus to forgive me, but I think I'll need to buy some more fish for you.”

Mom smiled, “I love you, sweetie. I'm sorry to hear that the fish died, Sarah, but I'm glad that you had the courage to come and tell me about it. I do hope that the next time you are asked to do something, you will obey right away.”

Questions for Discussion

1. What did Sarah need to do? Why?

2. Why do you think it was hard for Sarah to tell her Mom that the fish died?
3. Why did Sarah need courage to do the right thing?
4. Why was Sarah's mom happy that she had told her what happened?
5. Why is it essential for a Christian to have courage?
6. Why would a cowardly Christian be a worthless Christian?

Conclusion and Resolution

Read the Scripture again. Read or explain the conclusion in your own words. Ask the group to suggest what specific changes that they can resolve to make in their daily lives that will help them to implement needed changes in this area. Ask them to especially consider things they have learned in the Bible to use as scriptural guideposts to a more competent and productive life.

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When we have discovered that we are at fault for something, we need to have courage to take the blame and admit that we are responsible. Only a cowardly person avoids taking the blame by being silent, acting as if he knows nothing about it, or blaming someone else. Young people need to learn to step up and say, “Yes, I did it.” And then, to ask forgiveness, and then do what needs to be done to remedy the situation.

Teacher's Notes
