

*Courage is not the absence of fear*

November 3

Fear is not necessarily a negative emotion. For instance, a healthy fear of driving too close to the edge of a mountain may prevent one from a serious or fatal accident. A healthy fear of a wild animal such as a snake may keep one from being bitten. Yet, a parent, out of courage (not the absence of fear), may stand between that snake and their child to keep that child from being bitten and poisoned.

Fear, therefore, has the potential to serve our lives in either a positive or negative way. Fear may keep us from doing the things we should as well as keep us from doing the things we shouldn't. Heroes are simply those who know the difference, and act wisely and with courage. Don't allow irrational fears to keep you from moving forward. Be courageous and take your stand.

*Prayer for Today*

God, thank You for helping me face all my fears with courage and empowering me to walk in victory today and every day. Teach me to respond with courage to life's problems by trusting in You.

*Scriptures for Today*

Psalms 111:10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise. (NIV)

Jude 1:22-23 Be merciful to those who doubt; snatch others from the fire and save them; to others show mercy, mixed with fear – hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh. (NIV)

Joshua 1:8-9 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go. (NKJV)