

WHY SHARE JESUS FOR LIFE?

Talk 4 – Courage – Hebrews 10:32-39

Small group questions

Leaders – Choose *some* from the following. Don't feel the need to work through each one!

If the questions make no sense or you don't know the answer,
please contact bishop@bathurstanglican.org.au

1. What are some moments in your life when you had to muster courage to try something new or face a difficult situation?

Hebrews 10:32-39

How Clearly Are You Seeing?

1. **Understanding Courage:**
 - How does the writer of Hebrews describe the courage of the early Christians in this passage?
 - Why do you think those early believers were willing to suffer in this way?
2. **Reflection on Courage:**
 - Reflect on a time when you witnessed or experienced significant courage in the life of another Christian. How did that impact you or others around you?

What's Your Response to What You're Seeing?

1. **Inspired by courage:**
 - How can the courage of the early Christians inspire us in our current context to share our faith more boldly?
2. **Facing challenges:**
 - What are some common fears or challenges that regularly prevent us from sharing Jesus with others? How can we overcome them? What might the worse thing that happens to us?
3. **Practical Scenarios:**
 - Think of specific situations in your daily life where you regularly have the opportunity to share about Jesus. How can you prepare yourself to respond with greater courage in those moments?

How's your courage?

1. **Sensing God's Love:**
 - On a scale of 1-10, how would you rate your own courage when it comes to sharing your faith? What factors contribute to your rating?
2. **Building courage:**
 - How can we actively cultivate and build our courage to share Jesus in our daily lives?
3. **Support from this small group:**
 - How can we as a small group support and encourage one another to be courageous in sharing our faith? How can we encourage and inspire one another to step out in faith and share Jesus, even when it feels risky or uncomfortable?

Prayer: Lord, give us the courage to share your message of love and hope with those around us. Help us to see clearly the needs of others and respond with compassion and boldness. Empower us with your Spirit so that we may speak with confidence and gentleness, bringing others closer to you. Amen.

Briefing Notes for Leaders

1. How does the writer of Hebrews describe the courage of the early Christians in this passage?

Highlight the endurance through suffering, public insult, persecution, and even joyfully accepting the confiscation of their property. Emphasize their unwavering faith and confidence in God's promises despite hardships.

2. Reflect on a time when you witnessed or experienced significant courage. How did that impact you or others around you?

Encourage sharing personal stories. These reflections can help the group see the tangible impact of courage and inspire them to act courageously in their own faith.

3. What do you make of such courage in such obviously difficult circumstances?

Discuss how this courage is both inspiring and challenging. Encourage group members to think about how they can draw inspiration from the early Christians' example in their own lives.

4. What is it that makes us nervous about saying anything to anyone about Jesus?

Address common fears like rejection, being labeled, or not having answers. Reassure that these concerns are valid but manageable with God's support and preparation.

5. What are some practical ways we can share Jesus in our daily lives, even if it requires courage?

Suggest simple actions like inviting someone to church, offering to pray for someone, or sharing a personal testimony. Encourage practical and realistic steps tailored to each member's comfort level.

6. How can we grow in courage to share our faith more boldly?

Discuss strategies like prayer, reading Scripture, and practicing sharing faith in supportive environments. Emphasize that courage can grow over time with consistent effort and reliance on God.

Encourage sharing other biblical stories of courage, such as Daniel in the lions' den or David facing Goliath. Draw parallels to

8. How can we support each other in our group to be more courageous in sharing our faith?

Foster a supportive environment where members can encourage and pray for each other. Discuss the importance of community in building and sustaining courage.

9. What steps can you take this week to act courageously in sharing Jesus with someone in your life?

Encourage each member to set a specific, achievable goal for the week. Follow up in the next meeting to share experiences and outcomes.