

DON'T GIVE UP
Courageous – Part 1 of 4

ON TV: Life is hard and often disappointing.

ON TV/OUTLINE: “8 We are pressed on every side by troubles, but we are not crushed and broken. We are perplexed, *but we don't give up and quit.* 9 We are hunted down, but God never abandons us. We get knocked down, *but we get up again and keep going.*” 2 Corinthians 4:8-9

ON TV: **WHERE** do we get that kind of resilience?

ON TV/OUTLINE: #1: Tell God exactly how you **FEEL**.

ON TV/OUTLINE: “Job stood up, *tore his robe in grief,* and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground and *worshiped.*” Job 1:20

ON TV: **4 Emotions We Face When We Go Through Major Loss Or Disappointment:**
#1: **ANGER**
#2: **GRIEF**
#3: **SHOCK**
#4: **FEAR**

ON TV/OUTLINE: “I can't be quiet! I'm angry and bitter. I have to speak!” Job 7:11

ON TV/OUTLINE: “Cry out in the night... Pour out your heart like water in prayer to the Lord.” Lamentations 2:19

ON TV: “God, you deceived me.” Jeremiah 20: 7

ON TV: “Call me bitter because God has made my life bitter.” Ruth 1:20

ON TV: “I've taken the worst you can hand out God, and I'm fed up. That's it!” Psalm 88:15

ON TV/OUTLINE: #2: **ACCEPT** help from others.

ON TV: “It's not good for man to be alone.” Genesis 1:18

ON TV/OUTLINE: “When desperate people give up on God Almighty, their friends, at least, should stick with them.” Job 6:14

ON TV/OUTLINE: “Encourage each other and give each other strength.” 1 Thessalonians 5:11

ON TV/OUTLINE: “By helping each other with your troubles, you obey the law of Christ.” Galatians 6:2

ON TV/OUTLINE: #3: Stop asking **WHY**

ON TV/OUTLINE: “11 Why didn't I die at birth as I came from the womb? 12 Why did my mother let me live? Why did she nurse me at her breasts?” Job 3:11-12

ON TV/OUTLINE: “Why let people go on living in misery? Why give light to those in grief?” Job 3:20

ON TV: “It is God's privilege to conceal things.” Proverbs 25:2

ON TV: 9 Right now, we only know a little...12 Right now, we see things imperfectly as in a poor mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely.” 1 Corinthians 13:9,12

ON TV/OUTLINE: “Who is the Almighty, and why should we obey him? What good will it do us if we pray?” Job 21:15

ON TV/OUTLINE: #4: TRUST God in the things I don't understand.

ON TV/OUTLINE: "1 Then Job replied to the Lord: '2 I know that you can do anything, and no one can stop you. 3 You ask, 'Who is this that questions my wisdom with such ignorance?' It is I. **I was talking about things I did not understand, things far too wonderful for me...** 6 God, I take back everything I said, and I sit in dust and ashes to show my repentance.'" Job 42:1-3, 6

ON TV: "I know that God is good, and I know that God is loving." Job 10:12

ON TV: "I know that God is all powerful." Job 36:22

ON TV: I know that God notices every detail of my life." Job 23:10

ON TV: "I know that for sure that God is in control." Job 34:13

ON TV: "I know that God has a plan for my life." Job 23:14

ON TV: 'I know that God will protect me.' Job 5:11

ON TV/OUTLINE: "Though he slay me, I will trust in him." Job 13:15

ON TV/OUTLINE: #5: Refuse to become **BITTER**

ON TV/OUTLINE: "21 I came naked from my mother's womb, and I shall have nothing when I die. **The Lord** gave me everything I had, and they were his to take away. **Blessed** be the name of the Lord!' 22 In all of this Job did not sin by blaming God." Job 1:21-22

ON TV: "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." Matthew 5:4

ON TV: "Jesus wept." John 11:35

ON TV/OUTLINE: KEY TRUTH: Losses **DEEPEN** me but don't **DEFINE** me. They are a part of my **MATURITY**; they are not part of my **IDENTITY**.

ON TV/OUTLINE: "9 Job's wife said to him, 'Are you still trying to maintain your integrity? Curse God and die.' 10 But Job replied, 'You talk like a godless woman. **Should we accept only good things from the hand of God and never anything bad?**' So, in all this, Job said nothing wrong." Job 2:9-10

ON TV/OUTLINE: "Watch out that no bitterness takes root among you...**it causes deep trouble**, hurting many in their spiritual lives." Hebrews 12:15b

ON TV: In life pain is inevitable but misery is **optional**.

ON TV/OUTLINE: #6: Face the future with **COURAGE**

ON TV: "My child will never return to me, but one day I will return to my child in heaven." 2 Samuel 12:23

ON TV/OUTLINE: "13 Put your heart right, Job. Reach out to God. 14 Put away evil and wrong from your home. 15 Then face the world again, firm, and courageous. 16 Then all your troubles will fade from your memory, like floods that are past and remembered no more. 17 **Your life will be brighter** than sunshine at noon, and life's darkest hours will shine like the dawn. You will live secure and full of hope." Job 11:13-18

ON TV/OUTLINE: "We pray that you will be filled with his mighty, glorious strength **so that you can keep going no matter what happens** -- always full of the joy of the Lord." Colossians 1:11