



Discipleship Guide

Sermon: Becoming Bold

Speaker: Pastor John Zayas

Date: September 21, 2025

A large orange circle is positioned on the left side of a light beige rectangular background. Overlapping the right side of the circle, the words 'becoming' and 'bold' are written in a bold, black, sans-serif font, stacked vertically.

**becoming
bold**

Key Takeaways

- God gives us full access to His promises and power when we stay connected to Him.
 - Being strong and courageous is rooted in God's promises, not self-confidence.
 - Staying in God's Word gives us access to His wisdom, knowledge, and strength.
 - Opposition often indicates that God is on the move in our lives.
 - God can use our difficult circumstances to fulfill His purposes.
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Discussion Questions

1. Pastor John mentioned that "The biggest enemy is yourself." How have you seen this play out in your own life? What self-limiting beliefs do you struggle with?
 2. The sermon emphasized the importance of being "strong and courageous." What does this look like practically in your daily life?
 3. How has staying connected to God's Word helped you access His wisdom and strength in challenging situations?
 4. Pastor Dan spoke about opposition being an indicator that God is on the move. Share a time when you faced opposition that ultimately led to spiritual growth or a new opportunity.
 5. The sermon touched on the idea of having "full access" to God. What areas of your life do you need to surrender to gain fuller access to God's presence and power?
 6. How does knowing that God is with you "in life and in death" impact your approach to challenges and uncertainties?
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Practical Applications:

1. Mirror Exercise: Take a few minutes each day this week to look in the mirror and have an honest conversation with yourself and God about areas where you need His strength and courage.

2. Scripture Meditation: Choose one verse from Joshua 1 to meditate on throughout the week. Journal about how this verse applies to your current circumstances.
3. Access Inventory: Make a list of the ways you currently "access" God (prayer, Bible study, worship, etc.). Identify one area you'd like to grow in and make a plan to do so.
4. Courage Challenge: Identify one area in your life where God may be calling you to step out in faith. Share this with the group and commit to taking one small step of obedience this week.
5. Gratitude for Opposition: Reflect on a past or current challenge. Write down three ways God might be using this opposition to grow or guide you.

Closing Prayer: Thank God for His promise to be with us always. Ask for the courage to step into the full access He provides, and for wisdom to recognize His hand even in times of opposition.

5-Day Devotionals

Here's a 5-day Bible reading plan and devotional guide based on the themes from the transcription:

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Day 1: Courage in God's Presence

Reading: Joshua 1:1-9

Devotional: As Joshua stepped into leadership after Moses' death, God repeatedly encouraged him to be "strong and courageous." Like Joshua, we often face daunting challenges that can shake our confidence. But God's promise remains: "I will be with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9). Today, reflect on areas in your life where you need courage. Remember that God's presence is your strength. How might your actions change if you truly believed God was with you in every situation? Take a moment to pray for God's courage to fill you as you face your own "promised lands."

Day 2: Overcoming Fear with Faith

Reading: Hebrews 11:1-6, 32-40

Devotional: Faith is the antidote to fear. The heroes of faith listed in Hebrews 11 faced seemingly impossible situations, yet they persevered because they trusted in God's promises. Consider the fears that hold you back - perhaps fear of failure, rejection, or the unknown. How might your life look different if you approached these fears with the faith of Abraham, Moses, or Rahab? Today, choose one fear and consciously hand it over to God, asking Him to replace it with faith in His goodness and power.

Day 3: God's Love in Our Suffering

Reading: Romans 8:31-39

Devotional: Life's hardships can sometimes make us question God's love. Yet Paul boldly declares that nothing can separate us from God's love - not trouble, hardship, persecution, or even death. Reflect on a time when you felt distant from God due to suffering. How does the assurance of God's unwavering love change your perspective on that experience? Today, meditate on the vastness of God's love. Let it sink deep into your heart that you are loved beyond measure, regardless of your circumstances.

Day 4: Salvation and New Identity

Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Devotional: In Christ, we become new creations. Our old identities, shaped by past mistakes and worldly values, are replaced with our true identity as God's beloved children. Think about labels you've accepted about yourself that don't align with how God sees you. How would embracing your new identity in Christ change your self-perception and actions? Today, practice seeing yourself through God's eyes. When negative self-talk arises, counter it with the truth of who you are in Christ.

Day 5: Hope in God's Promises

Reading: Romans 15:13, Jeremiah 29:11-14

Devotional: Hope is the anchor for our souls, grounded in God's faithful promises. Even when circumstances seem bleak, we can trust that God is working all things for our good. Reflect on a situation in your life that feels hopeless. How might viewing it through the lens of God's promises change your outlook? Today, write down one of God's promises that speaks to your current struggles. Keep it visible as a reminder of the hope you have in Christ, and let it fuel your prayers and actions.