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## The Beginning of Courage

As I read through the Bible, I find many examples of men and women who had incredible courage. I've often wondered where that bravery came from. The writer of Hebrews claims that the world was not worthy of these people who placed their life on the line to obey God in faith. It seems that this type of dedication and fortitude is missing in our modern church.

I know that the world will continue to turn towards evil as we get closer to the end of time. We, the church, will need as much courage as possible to bring forward the light of the Gospel in such darkness. Where does courage come from? The type of courage that causes a man to lay his life down. I often prayed for God to give it to me, I've had moments of boldness come and go throughout my life, but my prayer was for it to stay in me every moment and in every situation. God began to help me to find the true answer to great courage.

It was love that caused God to send His son to die for us, and it is love that will cause us to be bold in the face of the world. There was a time when the entire earth was full of darkness. Then suddenly, a little baby was born in a manger in the town of Bethlehem. Inside that newborn infant was more love than the world had ever known. During this Christmas season, let's remind ourselves of God's incredible love toward us. It says in 1 John 3:1, "See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!"NIV

God will never withhold Himself from us, and we can have as much of Him as we desire. Love always comes before courage; as we grow in His love, we will find all the bravery we need to overcome the enemy. By simply spending some time in private worship, you can immerse your spirit in Unending love. Let's focus on knowing this great love and filling our hearts with Him. Then nothing will be impossible for us.

Have a Merry Christmas!

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