

# Courageous Living

Inspired By God

and

Inspiring To Others!

What Does A Courageous Christian  
Look Like  
and  
From Where Does Courage Come?

Courageous Christians  
Have A  
Savior Worth Following!

## Matthew 19:16-22 (NIV)

Now a man came up to Jesus and asked, "Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life?" "Why do you ask me about what is good?" Jesus replied. "There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life, obey the commandments." "Which ones?" the man inquired. Jesus replied, "'Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, honor your father and mother,' and 'love your neighbor as yourself.'"

"All these I have kept," the young man said. "What do I still lack?" Jesus answered, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth.

Why Would Anyone Want To Follow  
Jesus Of Nazareth?

Why Would Anyone Accept Such A  
Challenge?

# What Make Jesus a Savior Worth Following?

## Isaiah 53:1-3 (NIV)

Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground.

He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

What was it about his Jesus, his character, his ethics, or his personality that drew people to him, that caused them to leave homes and careers and fortunes to follow him?

Serving  
Loving  
Compassionate  
Prayerful  
Patience Humility Forgiving Strong  
Gentle  
Self-Controlled

## Isaiah 42:1-4 ~ (See Matthew 12:20)

*“Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him and he will bring justice to the nations. He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets. A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out. In faithfulness he will bring forth justice; he will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth. In his law the islands will put their hope.”*

# Yes, Jesus Is...

➤ Attractive

➤ Noble

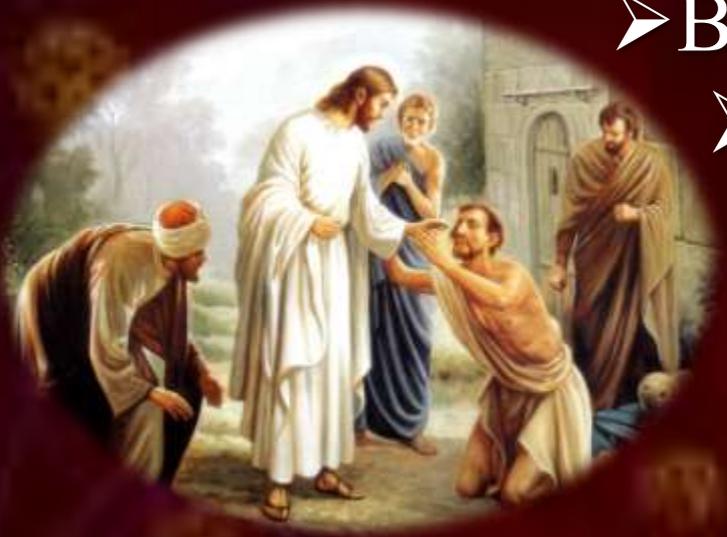
➤ Brave

➤ Kind

➤ Honest

➤ Loyal

➤ Generous



We Look At Jesus And Want  
To Be Like Him.

~But~

It Isn't Just His Character And Lifestyle That  
Draw Us To Him.

It Is What He Has Undergone For Us That  
Makes Him So Attractive.

# It is the Cross That Draws Us

John 12:32-33 (NIV)

“But I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself.” He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.

The Cross Tells Us Much About The  
Savior And Ourselves That Will  
Make Us Want To Follow Him.

# The Christ of The Cross Tells Us We Are Worth Dying For!

John 3:16 (NIV)

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Romans 5:6-8 (NIV)

You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

## Romans 3:10-18 (NIV)

As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one." "Their throats are open graves; their tongues practice deceit." "The poison of vipers is on their lips." "Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness." "Their feet are swift to shed blood; ruin and misery mark their ways, and the way of peace they do not know." "There is no fear of God before their eyes."

# The Christ of The Cross Tells Us We Will Live Forever!

When we join Christ in baptism, eternity happens.

Romans 6:5, 8-9, 11 (NIV)

If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection.

Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him...since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him.

In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

## Romans 8:31-33a (NIV)

What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all--how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies.

# The Christ of the Cross Tells Us That Evil and Death Lose!

1 Corinthians 15:55-58 (NIV)

"Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

# *I Will Follow Him* by Norman Gimbel

I will follow him  
Follow him  
    wherever he may go  
And near him  
    I always will be  
For nothing can  
    keep me away  
He is my destiny

I will follow him  
Ever since he touched  
    my heart I knew  
There isn't an ocean  
    too deep  
A mountain so high  
    it can keep  
Keep me away  
    Away from his love

# *How Do I Love Thee?*

By Elizabeth Browning for Robert Browning

How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.  
I love thee to the depth and breadth and height  
My soul can reach, when feeling out of sight  
For the ends of being and ideal grace.  
I love thee to the level of every day's  
Most quiet need, by sun and candle-light.  
I love thee freely, as men strive for right.

I love thee purely, as they turn from praise.  
I love thee with the passion put to use  
In my old griefs, and with my childhood's faith.  
I love thee with a love I seemed to lose  
With my lost saints.  
I love thee with the breath,  
Smiles, tears, of all my life; and, if God choose,  
I shall but love thee better after death.

## Romans 8:38-39 (NIV)

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

That Christ!  
The Christ Of The Cross Has  
Extended An Invitation  
To All Mankind.

**Come to me, all you who  
are weary and burdened,  
and I will give you rest.**

**- Matthew 11:28 -**



# “We Thank You Jesus”

Dear Savior, for loving us so much that you would leave home and let go of your eternal nature to come and rescue us, we thank you Jesus. For being our champion against Satan, evil, and death and all who would seek to destroy us, we thank you Jesus. For dying once that we might live forever, we thank you Jesus. For believing in us when virtually nothing about us would give you reason to believe, we thank you Jesus. For your attractive life and beautiful character, we thank you Jesus. For continuing to intercede for us, we thank you Jesus. For all that you've done and all that you're going to do, we thank you Jesus and so, we will follow you.