

**SEEKING A
GREATER MEASURE
OF COURAGE**

September's Prayer Guide

St. Giles Church



Seeking A Greater Measure of Courage

By

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Prayer Stations for The Nations

Introduction

Courage is that intangible substance that all of us need during trials, temptations, and suffering. True courage cannot be conjured up. It can only come through Holy Spirit deliverance. Praise God!! We can walk with His courage. We can stand in His courage. We can lie down in His courage. His courage edifies and provides our nerves rest, if we learn to remain steadfast through difficult times.

Courage is a necessary commodity to live a life of faith. Without it a Christian will wither and even become stagnant. Picture a stagnant pool of water. Of what does it consist? Stench and pests. Rather than becoming like this picture, you have ordained access to holy courage by trusting Jesus more and yourself less. Days come when we don't think we have strength, and

we wonder how we're going to make it. But, our all-knowing, all-sufficient God will give us supernatural ability when we think all is abased.

Know this, friends in Christ, everyday requires courage. We generally fail to realize or recognize our consistent need for it. God is full of courage and willingly will bestow it upon you so that you will become a man or woman demonstrating holy boldness, living your life for Him.

No matter where you are in your spiritual journey, during your time of prayer ask Him to make you His courageous follower, disciple, servant and friend. He will do it and use you oh so mightily!

On August 21st, St. Giles hosted a baptismal service. All the faces of those to be baptized were glowing with anticipation - except for one. That one was Andrew Brown, age six.

Upon approaching his divine appointment, his world was caving in. Hundreds of eyes focused on his trembling lips and the tears flooding his face. What was he to do? Faced with probably the most difficult challenge of his life, Andrew hesitated and then took his first step. Still hesitant, still crying, his dear dad, Peter, wrapped his arms around his son, entered the pool and encouraged him with patient words of love. Peter didn't hesitate.

He was right there as his son walked down those steps. Andrew's dad was God's hands that day. That's exactly how God wants to treat each of us. He is right there for us when we need courage. Don't take this lesson lightly. The Lord says, "I am with you. I will never leave you." As you pray this month, no matter what your circumstances are, allow God's courage to envelop you so that you will take only His steps. Should

nothing make sense in the physical realm, it will in the spiritual realm. God will do the correction as you courageously await His will.

As we enter September, fall is upon us. It's no surprise to find challenges as our children and grand children begin their school year. In addition to students, teachers and parents are preparing for this new season. Some with anticipation. Some with various aspects of trepidation. Every day has a new challenge. When I survey the prayer requests from our St. Giles' flock, difficulties have hit many of our families. As we pray this month ask God to strengthen our body of believers at St. Giles with His courage so that we are better enabled to fight the fight and keep the faith.

9/1 Pray for a Courageous Walk

Lord, You always speak the truth. Thank You. Continually teach me to **courageously walk** in your truth; learning true-truth, applying it to my life, and faithfully defending all You have taught me. Do not allow me to be enticed by Satan's lies. I am choosing this day not to fall for any form of deception. Please, remove possible pitfalls of spiritual ignorance and Disney Land bliss from my life. Romans 8:28 is such a blessing for the believer. You have assured me that all things work together for my good because I love You and am called according to your purpose. When darkness tries (and it will) to send me into a tailspin, I will look forward to You working for me. WOW! I praise You for your provision of courage. I am choosing to believe in You, your Word, and your faithfulness to see me through.

9/2 Pray for Courageous Decisions

Dear Lord, thank You that Daniel knew You intimately and chose your ways over the dictates of his earthly king. Even though his obedience appeared to be his demise when he was placed in the lion's den to be eaten alive, You saved him from attack. Just as Daniel chose to follow your precepts, Lord, I am choosing to do the same. I desire intimacy with You. Should any turn against me, I will show mercy to them and write your truth in my heart so that You and man will look upon me with favor. Should others speak any lies about me, I am trusting You to justify me publicly. You, Lord, will establish my honor and truth before all people. Give me **courage to make decisions** based on your perfect will.

9/3 Pray for More Courage

Lord, Paul teaches me that godless and wicked men suppress the truth in Romans 1:18. Thank You that I have been bought with the precious blood of Jesus Christ and am free from godlessness, wicked thoughts and actions. My life, Lord, is being transformed so that I am better able to walk courageously as I take your truths to the marketplace. There I glorify You before godless individuals who rely upon their own relative creativity to support unworthy lifestyles. Forgive them, Lord, for they really don't know what they are doing.

I believe that You, God, will always give me your Word to defend the faith. I will not be found wanting when I am weighed on the scale of faithfulness to your cause. By faith, I am believing that You are infusing a

greater measure of courage into me from
your cup of salvation so that others will
learn who You are and fall in love with You.

9/4 Pray for Holy Courage

Thank You, Lord, for your words of instruction in Romans 12:17-21.

“Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do right in the eyes of everybody. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge my friends, but leave room for God’s wrath, for it is written: ‘It is mine to avenge: I will repay,’ says the Lord. On the contrary: ‘if your enemy is hungry, feed him. If He is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.’ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.”

Lord, forgive me for any of my ridiculous reactions toward adversity in my life. To do what You ask requires me to own holy courage. Today, I am seeking just that so

my reactions will become godly actions that reflect the heart of the Lamb. May I consider all personal costs as priceless for your glory. As a good soldier on the front line of life, train me so that this is who I become.

Flesh, pride, arrogance, I speak to you in the name of Jesus Christ and command you to acquiesce as I receive your **holy courage** to be a lover of the unlovely throughout my life.

“A new commandment I give you: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” John 13:34-35

Amen and Amen

9/5 Pray for Great Courage

Thank You, Lord, for your holy bible. It is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (Psalm 119:105) Today my focus is twofold: To know You better through your Word and to lead others into your light.

As I travel your path, teach me to lead non-believers and nominal Christians into the light. To do this, I need **great courage** that only You can supply. Please Lord, make my words your words. Supply the perfect timing for me to approach these dying people so that your light will dispel their darkness. Help me memorize scripture. Help me understand scripture. Make your Word who I am. As I impart your truth to others, let me do it with your love so that the hurting and oppressed will receive a miraculous impartation. May their twisted and errant opinions be altered and

corrected by You. I am believing by faith that You will do this through your servant as I am led by the Holy Spirit. Thank You for hearing and answering this prayer.

9/6 Pray for Repentant Courage

Lord, our society is filled with evil. Evil we can see, and evil we can't see. Elements of society are also calling evil good and good evil. Darkness has been transplanted as light and bitter is accepted as sweet just as sweet for bitter. (Isaiah 5:20)

No one is left unscathed from this perversion. Lord, help us regain purity, holiness and peace of mind with godly lifestyles. Protect my family, my friends and our nation from evil, darkness and a bitter life. Give me the **courage to do a turnabout** in any area of my life that offends You in any way. Show me your ways, Lord, and help me to refrain from any appearance of evil, darkness or bitterness.

9/7 Pray for Godly Courage

Lord, I need your courage to be the individual You designed me to be. May my words edify others. May my actions support others. May my thoughts be transformed into your thoughts. Lord, consistently draw me to your heart of love. Let me honor You with my behavior. When I err, give me the courage to say that I made a mistake and the courage to be the first to apologize. Help me to share myself openly and honestly so that everyone sees Jesus in me. Lord, I love You, but best of all, I know You love me. I have areas in my life to work on. Please give me the courage to share my faults with others who will pray for my weaknesses and not judge me for my frailties.

9/8 Pray for Final Courage

Lord, I pray that I will finish strong for You. Every day is a precious gift from You-not to be wasted. Samson judged Israel faithfully for twenty years. Beyond that, He tragically fell into sinful behavior for his own gratification. In the end, captured and blinded by the Philistines, Samson prayed for his death to count for more than his life. God granted this request. Samson died, killing the enemies who had taunted and crippled him.

Today, my prayer is directed toward the way I live. Give me the **courage to finish strong.** May my last days be better than the former. God, You know how to make this happen. I'm trusting You to do this for me and your glory.

9/9 Pray for a Courageous Voice

What if God calls upon you to be the voice of one crying in the wilderness? You never know when He might whisper, “Speak”, “Preach”, “Defend”. Should He whisper this to you, will you do it at anytime and anywhere?

Today’s prayer focuses on becoming a person with **a courageous voice**. As you pray this prayer, ready yourself to become His vehicle.

Lord, I am willing to speak your Word with great boldness. I need courage to be your mouthpiece for the Gospel. I am placing my trust in You alone for your help to tell others that there is life for them in the Holy Spirit. Thank You that You are my enabler, promoting obedience in me to the faith and making disciples for your name’s sake.

When these converts move and have their
being in You, rivers of living water will flow
from them. Thank You for giving me the
heathen as my inheritance.

9/10 Pray for Courageous Defense

We live in a world of vast systems engineered to supply vast results. This was even the case during Queen Esther's reign when she was called upon to courageously defend her people from an evil plot. This plot was designed to annihilate the Jews. To save her people, Esther was forced to buck the political system of her husband the king. God gave her the courage which allowed her to gain freedom for her people.

God is searching His creation to find men and women who will courageously defend His people. As you pray today, remember that Esther's courage had to have been God-given as she faced her enemy. We should all want that kind of courage.

Lord, worldly systems of thought as well as systems of operation often result in opposing You. As your child, I know that their installation can only lead to a dead end for our society. Provide me with the courage needed to work for your vast system and defend it for this generation as well as the generations to come. Do not allow me to be in denial about current systems that are undermining our religious rights and freedom. I believe that your favor is making a circle around me like a shield. When I am given the opportunity to be called upon to defend our beliefs, let me have favor with everyone who looks upon me.

9/11 Pray for Courage to Follow God

Lord, situations arise in my life where I see things differently than others do; even my brothers and sisters in Christ. Joshua had this same dilemma when he and Caleb returned from the Promised Land. After spying it out, the other eight men on their team felt that taking the Promised Land was impossible.

I have learned that even though no one may go with me, You will. When I know that I know that I know, give me your **courage to follow your plan,** counting on You to slay all giants. Your Word promises me that I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Lord, please provide me with godly confidence to proceed by faith into any unknown territory that You want conquered.

9/12 Pray for Courageous Endurance

Lord, some days just aren't as easy as others, especially when people I'm supposed to love and trust turn against me. Joseph had such a "BAD" day when his brothers' jealousy caused him to be sold into slavery. All that strife over a coat of many colors!! During his darkest hour, Joseph never gave up on You. In fact, he **courageously endured** the suffering by living a life of godly dedication. I pray that I will reflect the same courage Joseph did when friends or family treat me unkindly, trying to place me in a "Deep well".

Forgiveness will become my byword and Agape love my gift to them. I will think before I act and place a guard over my lips to demonstrate your fruit of the Spirit; love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness and self-control.

9/13 Pray for Courageous Vows

Lord, sometimes You call on individuals to support others who are losing a battle.

Jonathan **courageously vowed** to do just that for David even though it meant losing favor with his own father. Should You have this assignment designed for my life, please provide me with a heart that will be solely bent toward your will. I need courageous love to refrain from saying, “No!” to a difficult relationship.

Many undesirables cross my path. But, they are desired by You. Please, Lord, give me loving eyes to see them as You do and the heart You placed in Jonathan. My desire is to serve You to the best of my ability as I grow in your ways. Fulfill yourself in my life as I faithfully minister to anyone You choose for me to help.

9/14 Pray for Courageous Virtue

At times, Lord, I find myself alone, thinking that no one else cares about my problems or even my life. Sometimes, I have a charge from You, and no one even cares to help me. Elijah faced these same despairing thoughts. As God's prophet, he was all alone, standing for truth against King Ahab's and Queen Jezebel's wickedness. The only prophet in the land to fight the priest of Baal, his morale hit rock bottom. BUT, God, You saw him through to victory every time he confronted evil.

Help me, Lord, to remember that You are with me always. If I am down, lift me up. See me through to victory. Give me **courageous virtue in my life,** My hope is in You. I know that You are the lover of my soul. You are my rock. You are a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

9/15 Pray for Kingdom Courage

Restoring the waste places is not a fun job. Nehemiah was sent by God to rebuild the wall in Jerusalem. There he found great opposition toward this project. God's projects can be complicated and difficult. Projects thwarted by people who want to see them fail, can lose their appeal to be completed. As men and women of God, we must remain single-minded to see God's projects through. Nehemiah did not allow his enemies to rob him of God's intent for that wall to be built.

Lord, do not allow me to be Satan's tool to undermine your intent for my life or anyone else's. Give me the necessary **courage You gave Nehemiah to be a kingdom builder.**

Support me. Strengthen me to always complete that which You started in me. Help me to never quit.

9/16 Pray for Courageous Faith

Lord, when my life doesn't make much sense, please provide me with **courageous faith** to abide in your love and wisdom. Job was basically stepped on like a spider and had only a thread to hang by. Nevertheless, nevertheless, your love for him never wavered. Job's example encourages me to hang in there, to remain steadfast and refuse to deny your love for me. I know that You are always with me, your eyes are on me from the inside-out.

You are my constant, Lord. You are my compass, God. You are my restorer in any and all situations. Thank You for lifting the burdens off my shoulders and the negative stuff out of my mind and heart as I lean on You.

9/17 Pray for 3-D Courage

Jesus, will I ever be tempted to deny who I am in You? I hope not. Learning to become your disciple for three years, Peter received the revelation that You are The Christ. Yet, on the night Judas betrayed You, Peter denied You not once, not twice, but three times. Fear for his own well being catapulted him into spiritual turmoil. Rejecting You, he actually rejected who he had become in You. I don't want to have those dark hours in my own life. Please, Lord, supply **three dimensional (Father-Son-Holy Spirit) courage** for me to confess You before men, women and children. I count all the costs as nothing because You paid such an exorbitant price for my life. Let me always defend the faith worthily for You alone are worthy of all praise, glory and honor.

9/18 Pray for Translating Courage

It's difficult to imagine anyone being transported instantaneously from one country to another. That is exactly what God did for Philip right after he answered the questions of the Ethiopian eunuch. Lord, it would be the greatest to be translated for your special purpose so that others would receive their new birth in Christ. Philip had the privilege to go where You called him. He was instant in season and out, able to reprove, rebuke, and exhort with long suffering and doctrine. Lord, I should be as dedicated to your work as Philip was. Please provide me with your **translating courage** so that I will be conformed to your image, feeding everyone I meet with precious truths from your precious Word.

9/19 Pray for Strengthening Courage

Lord, life's struggles often try to get the best of me. When I face them, please provide **strengthening courage** for me.

Ruth had her own struggles when her husband died. You infused steadfastness into her with inordinate **strengthening courage**. When Ruth entered Judah, after walking a distressing distance, she found herself thoroughly blessed through your provision. She could have been frozen by her situation. You, Lord, gave your strength to her and blessed her with your peace. By faith, Lord, I am choosing to walk in your **strengthening courage**, expecting your peace to overshadow my life. Life's struggles will come crashing against me. I will not be caught in the current. For You, My God, are with me and will see me through.

9/20 Pray for a Warrior's Courage

Lord, should doubt, worry or anxiety rile my life, secure me with the **courage of a warrior**, freely allowing You to take the reins of my negative circumstances so that I live serving You as my defender. Anoint me afresh. Demonstrate your energetic courage through me just as You did for the lad David when he slew Goliath. Yes, Lord, giants are in my life. But these giants must go from my life. The giants of doubt and worry have ensnared me all too often. Then, when I ask You to take over, I am assured that You will give me victory. Lord, who am I to doubt your ability to deliver me from crossfire? I will not limp. I will not slouch. I will receive your precious provision of energetic courage for every situation in my life.

9/21 Pray for Fresh Courage

Lord, the fruit of the womb is your reward. Hannah could not conceive, and she was being made to feel unworthy as a childless woman. Rather than continuing to wallow in self-pity, Hannah chose to take her emotional pain to the Temple where she met with You and made promises to You concerning her child who had not yet been conceived. You supplied her with **fresh courage**.

Lord, I need **fresh courage** to withstand hurtful words and harmful actions. Assure me of my fruitfulness as your branch. Watch over me with songs of deliverance so that my songs will be songs of praise from a heart that has received **fresh courage**.

9/22 Praying for Confrontational Courage

It's often very difficult to go to another Christian with a concern about an issue regarding sin in their life. After David committed adultery with Bathsheba and plotted her husband's demise, the prophet Nathan confronted his king. With great sorrow, David admitted, repented and regained his posture with God. This happened because a man of God was willing to apply God's truth to a sinner's heart.

Granted, it's easier to look the other way than taking time and energy to do what Nathan had to do. Is that what God wants of us? Perhaps, you don't like the idea of having to do this. Or, you don't like the idea of people talking with you about your own problem areas. These are problems of

monumental proportion. Scripture teaches us that we are to rub stone against stone.

Confrontation toward the committed sinner—not the person-applied lovingly, can produce a crop of righteousness in the sinner’s life that may never mature if left to its own means. So often, we choose to overlook the opportunities God gives us to assist those who are bound by sin. We wonder why they make the wrong choices. Or, we see the consequences of their mistakes. We’re sad and embarrassed for them, hoping their lives will turn about face for the good. When we learn to confront in Christian love, the result will leave us freely shining, polished and refined.

Lord, please give me loving, **confrontational courage** to polish others when they need to regain their sheen. And, in like manner, that

I'll have the courage to receive loving, godly confrontation when my behavior does not line up with your Word.

9/23 Pray for Obedient Courage

Genesis 7:5 states, “And Noah did all the Lord commanded him.” What did God command of him; to be obedient. Today, our time with the Lord will focus on obedient courage. Lord, to be obedient, I must do what You command of me, even if your directives seem different to the point of strange. I’m asking You to give me obedient courage that is required to follow through with your commission for my life. My success in completing your assignments depends on me totally relying on You to lead me in the way I should go. Thank You for your instructions and your protection. Should mockers attack me, make my response loving. My desire is to be your instrument of obedient courage with a spirit of power, a spirit of love, and a spirit of a sound mind, self-control and discipline.

9/24 Pray for Wise Courage

Lord, mistakes I make against your will for my life can affect a negative chain of events for generations to come. Even though Solomon is credited with great wisdom, he took his eyes off You to set up idols made of stone for his foreign wives to worship. He chose to appease those heathen women over the necessary **wise courage** to stand for You. Throughout my life help me to always pursue godly, **courageous wisdom**. I realize that this will only happen as I walk led by your Spirit, constantly learning from your Word.

Lord, keep me safe from the heathen's ways so that I'll remain courageously, wisely steadfast for you.

9/25 Pray for Spirit-led Courage

Acts 10:28 informs us that it was against Jewish law to associate with a gentile or to visit him. But God showed the Apostle Peter a vision and told him not to call any man impure or unclean. That very day Cornelius, a gentile centurion in the Italian Regiment, was told by a holy angel to invite Peter to his home. Peter came without raising any objection. He used **Spirit-led courage** and insight to obey God's vision and voice in spite of the Jewish law he had practiced throughout his life. By doing this, God used Peter to lead Cornelius and the other God-fearing people in his household to Christ as their Savior. At that moment, they received the gift of the Holy Spirit and began speaking in tongues and praising God. When God speaks to us, He is expecting us

to engage our **Spirit-led courage** to do His will.

Lord, I desire to walk in the same **Spirit-led courage** You gave Peter when You sent your vision that corrected cultural barriers, and provided salvation for the gentiles. Help me to obey what You speak into me so I won't miss your wondrous works in others or in my own life.

9/26 Pray for Praising Courage

Generally, when an unexpected miracle is performed, people are blessed, thrilled, praising God and lifted up on eagle's wings. After their initial surprise, Mary and her cousin Elisabeth, pregnant with Jesus and John the Baptist respectively, praised God through beautiful songs recorded in scripture. These women were thrilled. Elisabeth had never given birth, and she was far beyond child-bearing years. And now, in her old age, God was blessing her with a son who lept in her womb when she sang. Mary had foreknowledge that she was carrying the Messiah. Can you imagine her excitement and anticipation for this privilege? Their time together was probably spent eagerly sharing their wonder at God's hand upon them.

Dry seasons come into our lives. Many of us don't receive the miracle we have been waiting for. What is your response in this setting? Are you able to praise God in the midst of tragedy or heart-wrenching disappointment? God does not leave us empty handed or empty worded. He provides our greatest resource for praising Him when our mouths are dry-the Psalms of David. This book gives us a model that we can emulate for God's glory. Singing psalms becomes a powerful vehicle to raise our spirits and bring us into His presence.

As you pray, ask God to give you a special song to sing to Him. Lord, I am choosing to follow your mandate to praise you in all situations. This, in itself, will be healing balm for me. When the miracle doesn't come and I am emotionally depleted, let me

still praise You. Please give me praising courage. Infuse praise plus courage into my very core. Once I have **praising courage**, create psalms of praise in my life just as You did for David. No matter what my circumstances may be, I will learn to praise You consistently. You are the lifter of my countenance.

9/27 A Time for Reflection

Lord, this month I have learned that your dedicated men and women from the scriptures battled many of the same issues and challenges I face. Thank You that You provided various forms of courage through your Holy Spirit to help them withstand and remain standing. Today, I am going to reflect on six of these types of courage and think about how glorious it is that I can receive all of them from your Spirit.

COURAGEOUS WALK
COURAGEOUS DECISIONS
MORE COURAGE
HOLY COURAGE
GREAT COURAGE
REPENTANT COURAGE

9/28 A Time for Reflection

Today, Lord, I am again focusing on eight more types of courage that I need to be your servant. My desire is to be found strong in You. As I reflect upon these forms of courage, let me take my time to evaluate myself with spiritual eyes and pray that your Spirit will plant them in my heart.

GODLY COURAGE

FINAL COURAGE

COURAGEOUS VOICE

COURAGEOUS DEFENSE

COURAGE TO FOLLOW GOD

COURAGEOUS ENDURANCE

COURAGEOUS VOWS

COURAGEOUS VIRTUE

9/29 A Time for Reflection

Here I am, Lord, asking You to teach me how to hold onto your courage for my life. Today's list is shorter but equally challenging. I am trusting You to help me see and understand who I need to be in You.

KINGDOM COURAGE

COURAGEOUS FAITH

THREE DIMENSIONAL COURAGE

TRANSLATING COURAGE

STRENGTHENING COURAGE

WARRIOR COURAGE

9/30 A Time for Reflection

Lord, it's already the last day of September. My time with You has been sweet as You have presented me with a beautiful menu of many forms of courage when I face various trials, temptations, sufferings and tests. Thank You for the following list of Holy Spirit supplied courage.

FRESH COURAGE

CONFRONTATIONAL COURAGE

OBEDIENT COURAGE

WISE COURAGE

SPIRIT-LED COURAGE

PRAISING COURAGE