BE BRAVE

Joshua 1:6-7 (NLT)
6 "Be strong and courageous, for you are the one who will lead these people to possess all the land I swore to their ancestors I would give them. 7 Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do.

When the BIBLE says BE BRAVE – you know there will be trouble!
When it says be brave 3 -4 times in a few verses you know there will be lots of trouble!
We have to be brave to inherit our promises and make them our own.
The Christian life is about being tenacious in the face of trouble and finding the grace to stubbornly believe GOD IS GOOD!

But we have a good heritage – as BRAVE people run in our family!
Let the heroes of our faith inspire you – they are all cheering us to make the move and move forward!

IMPORTANT TO KEEP RIGHT ATTITUDES

Proverbs 4:23
Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.

Give high priority to the protection of your heart.
Life will be tough
Injustice and betrayal does happen but will you handle it right.
Do not get stuck in the place of bitterness and despair.

Even when others are wrong you are still responsible for what affects you!
Guard your heart!

BE BRAVE WITH YOUR FORGIVENESES and REVERSE ATMOSPHERES!

But what do we see in ourselves how does that influence our perspective?

**** Cat seeing a LION**

Need to also deal with all negativity towards ourselves and keep the right GOD IMAGE.
We need to watch each other's lives to be inspired – not to get insecure!
Sometimes we need to brave and acknowledge who we were and grasp our identity.

GRASP YOUR ID WITH BOTH HANDS

NAME – What do you call yourself – Do you carry wrong labels?
ADDRESS – Where are you living? Are you located in this place? Are you living away from home in a fantasy? Are you rooted and connected here or away?
BIRTH DATE – Born for such a time as this! You are the right age to do what you were called to do.
GENDER – Born to be you – with your skills.
OCCUPATION – What are you called to be? What is the DNA on your inside created you to be?

Once we know **whose we are,** we know **who we are** and **what we** can carry.

BELIEVE YOU ARE AMAZING!

Philippians 4:8
Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

We need to take our place and lead not with arrogance but confidence that Jesus has called me!
Can we recognize the gifts given to us and help each other steward them for GOD?
Some people carry such a grace for leadership - are we threatened or do we cheer-lead this?

Ruth 3:11
And now, my daughter, don't be afraid. I will do for you all you ask. All the people of my town know that you are a woman of noble character.

Too often we have let fear overwhelm our nobility and leadership.
Ruth has a good reputation and so was able to do unusual things and not be misunderstood.
Create a tract record of noble character and do not lose it – then you can step out and people will follow.

Proverbs 31:25 (NIV)
She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come.

Really believe that God is asking us to lead with strength and dignity.
This is a season for new confidence….we need to lead!
Believe God wants to break an atmosphere of hopelessness and indifference and put a new passion to change the atmospheres and release HOPE>

RADICAL PEOPLE

Deborah – Judges 5
We need to be ready to be Mothers in the land that instill radical principles into our "children" and shape them to live life well.

RADICAL with our beliefs, truth and purity.

Too much of our culture is GREY – we need to have conviction and well thought out beliefs.
People need to understand what makes us work.
I believe that the post-modern leadership is over – people want to face the issues and talk the hard talk

EVEN politically - we have ISIS and radical Islam – there is an appeal of the RADICAL amongst the young and those with a cry for justice.
Time to be BRAVE and take courage AND TALK the real biblical issues and perspective and not be afraid.

TENDER PEOPLE

Even in our strength we need to be sweet.
We are to weep with those who weep and show our emotional side!

Tabitha – Acts 9

(Acts 9:36 - 42 NIV) In Joppa there was a disciple named **Tabitha (which, when translated, is Dorcas), who was always doing good and helping the poor**. About that time she became sick

and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, "Please come at once!" Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. **All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them..**Then he called the believers and the widows and presented her to them alive. This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord.

God spoke to me –Who would stand and cry around you if you died?
To whom do you bring GOOD NEWS?
Are we people that would be missed?

CALLED PEOPLE

We need to recognize that we are called and we have a task to do what the Holy Spirit has asked us to do.

Matthew 22:14
"For many are called, but few are chosen."

Many are called but FEW continue to consistently position themselves to be chosen.

What has caused your gifts or confidence to be crushed?

Has your confidence been lost by disappointment, weariness, your own rational thinking, your own woundedness and offense against church or leadership.
How have you quenched the call of the spirit inside.

(1 Th 5:19-20 NIV) Do not put out the Spirit's fire; do not treat prophecies with contempt.

IRRITATE YOUR CALL AGAIN.

Go for a walk on memory lane – read some books – listen to stories from the nations!

Rehearse the stories – go back and look at church history and the memorial places of your life.
Listen to the testimonies

FELT GOD say this is a time for defining priorities, taking opportunities and leaving legacies!

There is a deep weariness that can eat in your heart if you do not acknowledge the passion and call contained on the inside of your being. If you are called to pioneer and make a way then do not hide – ask God for courage and stir the fire again – declare the dream and release the call.

If your passion has died asked Jesus to wake up the fire of HIS CALL in your bones!

BE BRAVE AND ACKNOWLEGE YOUR REAL GOD MADE PURPOSE!