# COURAGE TO GET OUT OF THE BOAT

THE ONLY WAY TO SUCCEED IN ANYTHING IS TO PUSH OURSELVES BEYOND OUR COMFORT ZONES (Matthew 14:23-33)



#### TO GET OUT OF THE BOAT

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#### Matthew 14:25–33 (NKJV)

25 Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. <sup>26</sup> And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. <sup>27</sup> But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid." 28 And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." 29 So He said, "Come." And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. 30 But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!" 31 And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" <sup>32</sup> And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. <sup>33</sup> Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, "Truly You are the Son of God."

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- Peter had the faith to get out of the boat (29)
- Peter walked on Water (29)
- Peter began to Sink (30)
- Peter Cried out "Lord save me!" (30)
- Jesus SAVED HIM! (32)
- The disciples faith in Jesus as the Son of God was strengthened (33)

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THE PROBLEM OF STAGNATION (Revelation 3:1,15-19)

THE DANGER OF HAVING A SENSE OF SATISFACTION AND SECURITY IN OUR COMFORT ZONES

(Luke 18:18; Acts 26:28,29; Revelation 3:15-19)

THE NEED TO OVERCOME THE FEAR THAT HOLDS US BACK FROM GROWTH & BLESSING (Numbers 14; Joshua 1:6-9; Hebrews 12:1-3)

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#### Joshua 1:6–9 (NKJV)

<sup>6</sup> Be strong and of good courage, for to this people you shall divide as an inheritance the land which I swore to their fathers to give them. <sup>7</sup> Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go. 8 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. 9 Have I not commanded you?

Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

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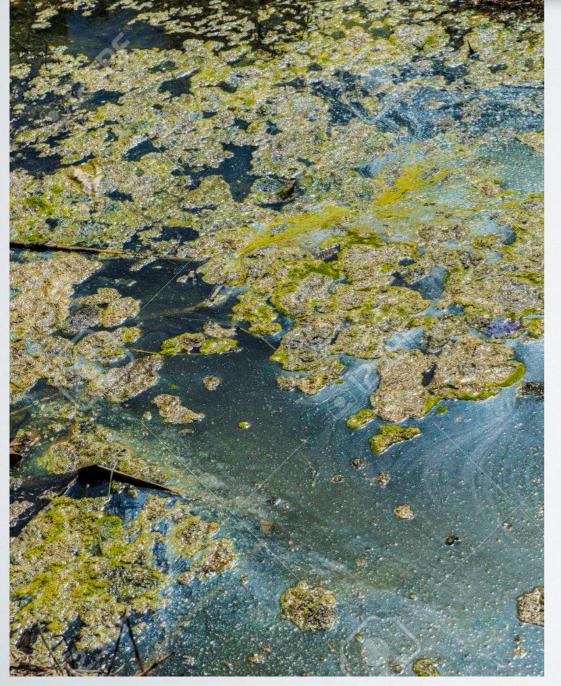
#### 1 Corinthians 16:13–16 (NKJV)

13 Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong. 14 Let all that you do be done with love. 15 I urge you, brethren—you know the household of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and that they have devoted themselves to the ministry of the saints—16 that you also submit to such, and to everyone who works and labors with us.

#### TO GET OUT OF THE BOAT

#### THE PROBLEM OF STAGNATION

(Revelation 2:4,5; 3:1,15-19)

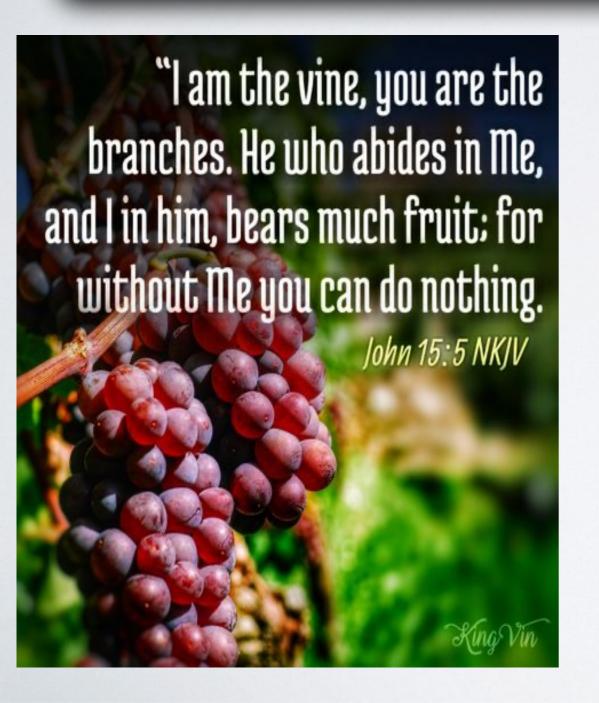


- The church in Ephesus had lost its "first love" (Rev. 2:1-7)
- The church in Sardis was dead (only living things grow!) (Rev. 3:1)
- The church of the Laodiceans was stagnate and they made Christ nauseous (Rev. 3:14-19)
- The overly cautious steward lost everything (Mat 25:14-30)
- WE MUST GROW & BEAR FRUIT!

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#### THE PROBLEM OF STAGNATION

(Revelation 2:4,5; 3:1,15-19)



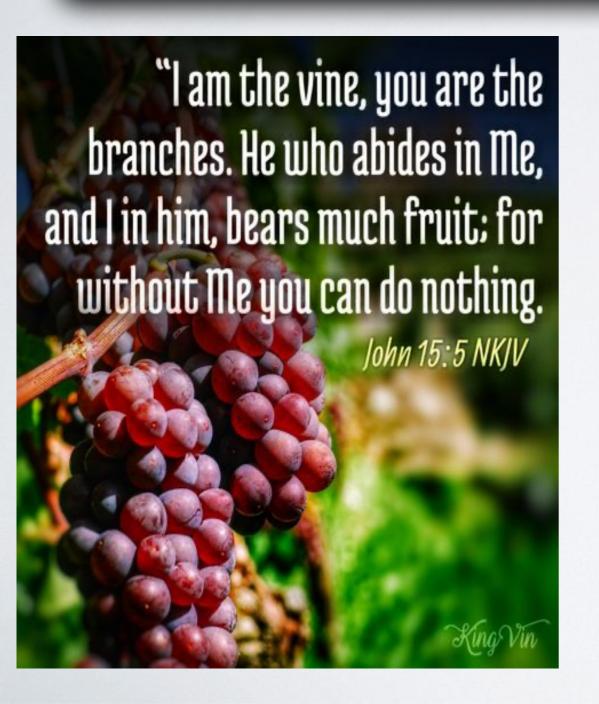
#### John 15:1-8 (NKJV)

1 "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup> Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

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#### THE PROBLEM OF STAGNATION

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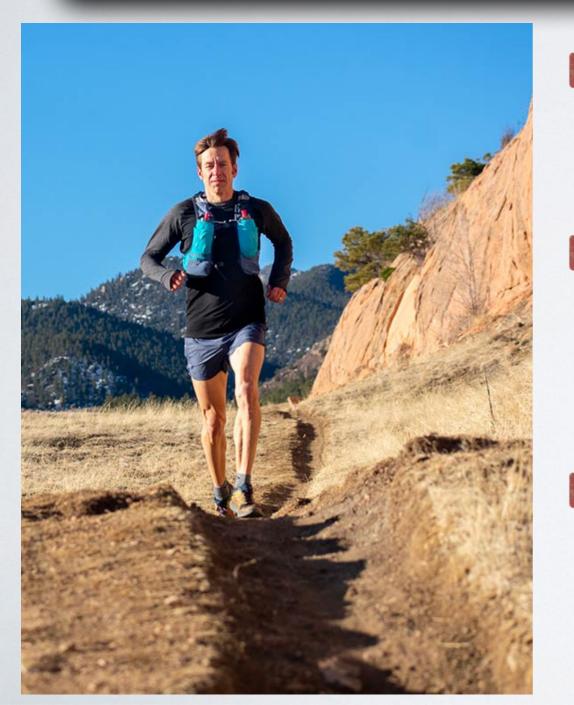
#### John 15:1-8 (NKJV)

<sup>5</sup> "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. <sup>7</sup> If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. 8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

#### TO GET OUT OF THE BOAT

#### THE DANGER OF SATISFACTION

(Revelation 3:1,15-19)



- The churches in Ephesus, Sardis and Laodecia were not aware of their stagnant conditions (Rev. 3:1,15-19)
- The one talent man thought he was doing a good thing by burying the Lord's talent to keep it safe (Mat. 25:14-30)
- Before anyone can be convinced to make a change, they have to become dissatisfied with where they are (Luke 18:18; Acts 26:28,29)

#### TO GET OUT OF THE BOAT

#### THE DANGER OF SATISFACTION

(Revelation 3:1,15-19)



- Being faithful and content with our circumstances DOES NOT mean we should be satisfied with our spiritual growth as individuals or as a congregation (Phil. I:II; 4:II-I3)
  - We should always be reaching forward, pressing onward striving to be faithful stewards! (Phili. 3:12-15)

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#### THE DANGER OF SATISFACTION

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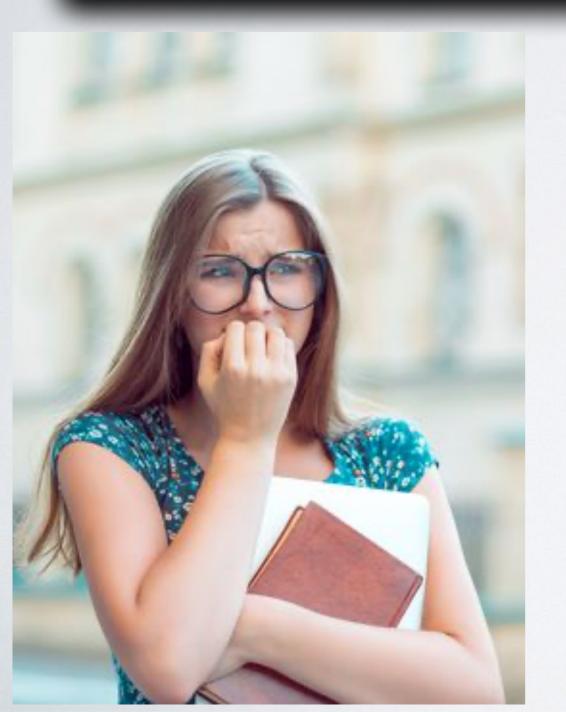
#### Philippians 3:12–15 (NKJV)

<sup>12</sup> Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. 13 Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. 15 Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind; and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you.



#### TO GET OUT OF THE BOAT

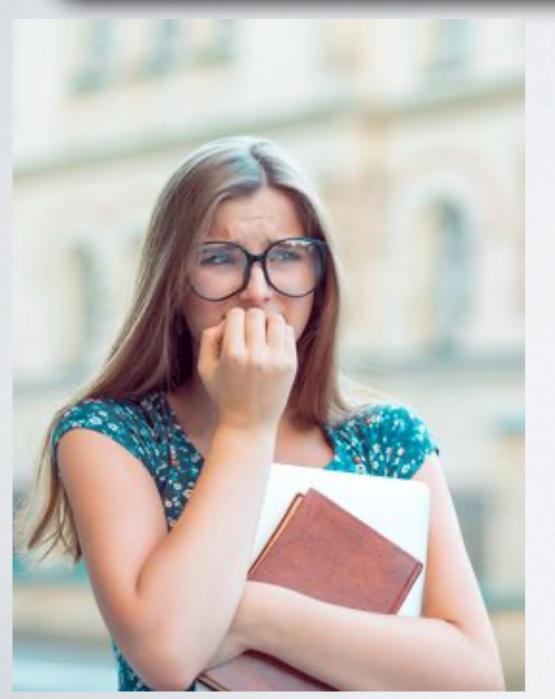
## OVERCOME THE FEAR THAT HOLDS US BACK (Numbers 13; 14; Joshua 1-6)



- The Israelites arrive at the boarder of the promise land they send in 12 spies They return with a report of how good the land is ... BUT! (Numbers 13; 14)
- The overly cautious steward was "AFRAID" of the Lord so he thought it would be best to burry his talent he was afraid of what MIGHT happen if he used what the Lord gave him (Mat 25:14-30).

#### TO GET OUT OF THE BOAT

## OVERCOME THE FEAR THAT HOLDS US BACK (Numbers 13; 14; Joshua 1-6)



- When God promises something, it is guaranteed regardless of how things may appear! (John 10:35)
- Ability + opportunity = responsibility! (James 4:17; Luke 12:47).
- When God opens a door we need to have the faith to walk through it! (Rev. 3:7,8)
- If we are doing the will of God, He has promised to be with us (Mat. 7:7; I John 5:14,15; Heb. 13:5).

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- For many, sin and the world is their comfort zone even though they carry a heavy burden, and have no hope they feel stuck! JESUS CAN DELIVER YOU! (Mat. 11:28-30; Acts 2:38; Gal. 3:26-29)
- For some in Christ, they fail to grow because they are afraid to make the changes necessary to grow (Heb. 12:1-3; Ep. 6:10; 1 Cor. 16:14-16).

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#### Hebrews 12:1–2 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup> Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

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#### Revelation 3:7–13 (NKJV)

<sup>7</sup> "And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write, 'These things says He who is holy, He who is true, "He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens": 8 "I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name. 9 Indeed I will make those of the synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews and are not, but lie—indeed I will make them come and worship before your feet, and to know that I have loved you.

#### Revelation 3:7–13 (NKJV)

<sup>10</sup> Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth. 11 Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown. 12 He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name. 13 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."