

Courage
Courage To Overcome
From "Courageous" series by Wayne Murray

What Does God Expect From Me (Courageous Movie)

It's Not A Matter Of If Your Family Will Ever Experience Hard Times And Difficulties.

It Is A Matter Of When

Every Family In This Room (No Matter What Your Family Looks Like) Will Have Something To Overcome At One Time Or Another.

In This Room There Are People Today Who Are Have Experienced Loss Of A Loved One.

Some Here Who Are Overcoming

- Bankruptcy
- Divorce
- Adultery
- Loss Of A Job

Statistics Tell Us That Everyone In This Room Will Face Some Sort Of Crisis In The Next Two Years.

- **Financial Crisis**
- **Relationship Crisis**
- **Health Crisis**
- **Emotional Crisis**

When A Crisis Occurs, It **Affects** Your Family.

In Fact, Many Of These Crisis Have Been Known To **Destroy** A Family.

So When They Happen (And The Likelihood Is That One Of Them Will)

- What Will We Do?
- Where Will We Get To The Courage To Overcome Them?

The Good News Is That **Loss** Or **Trouble** Or **Challenges** Don't Have To Spell The End Of Your Family.

In Fact, One Of The Very Reasons God Created Family Was To Help Us Overcome Such Things.

In The Bible There Is A Testimony Of A Man Named Job

His Story Provides Information And Challenges And How He And His Family Overcame Some Serious Difficulty . . .

Job 1:1 "There Was A Man In The Land Of Uz Whose Name Was Job; And That Man Was Blameless, Upright, Fearing God And Turning Away From Evil.

Job 1:2 Seven Sons And Three Daughters Were Born To Him.

Job 1:3 His Possessions Also Were 7,000 Sheep, 3,000 Camels, 500 Yoke Of Oxen, 500 Female Donkeys, And Very Many Servants; And That Man Was The Greatest Of All The Men Of The East."

This Man Job Was Very Blessed - He Was Rich

Remember They Measured Wealth Not By How Much Money Was In Your Bank Account But By How Many Animals Were On Your Farm

He

- Was Happily Married.
- Had Many Children.

The Bible Says He **Feared God And Was Blameless.**

We All Want That Testimony

Yet None Of Those Things **Kept** Something Very Difficult Things Some Tragedies From Coming To His House

Job 1:13 Now There Was A Day When His Sons And Daughters Were Eating And Drinking Wine In Their Oldest Brother's House;

Job 1:14 And A Messenger Came To Job And Said, "The Oxen Were Plowing And The Donkeys Feeding Beside Them, When The Sabeans Raided Them And Took Them Away--Indeed They Have Killed The Servants With The Edge Of The Sword; And I Alone Have Escaped To Tell You!"

Job 1:15 While He Was Still Speaking, Another Also Came And Said, "The Fire Of God Fell From Heaven And Burned Up The Sheep And The Servants, And Consumed

Them; And I Alone Have Escaped To Tell You!"

Job 1:16 While He Was Still Speaking, Another Also Came And Said, "The Chaldeans Formed Three Bands, Raided The Camels And Took Them Away, Yes, And Killed The Servants With The Edge Of The Sword; And I Alone Have Escaped To Tell You!"

Job 1:17 While He Was Still Speaking, Another Also Came And Said, "Your Sons And Daughters Were Eating And Drinking Wine In Their Oldest Brother's House, And Suddenly A Great Wind Came From Across The Wilderness And Struck The Four Corners Of The House, And It Fell On The Young People, And They Are Dead; And I Alone Have Escaped To Tell You!"

Job 1:18 Then Job Arose, Tore His Robe, And Shaved His Head; And He Fell To The Ground And Worshiped. And He Said: "Naked I Came From My Mother's Womb, And Naked Shall I Return There. The Lord Gave, And The Lord Has Taken Away; Blessed Be The Name Of The Lord."

Job 1:19 In All This Job Did Not Sin Nor Charge God With Wrong.

It Is Difficult For Any Of Us To Imagine Anyone Having A More Difficult Day Than Job.

He Lost

- His Possessions
- His Friends
- His Children

He Lost It All **In A Single Day**

But The Last Verse In This Chapter Gives A Bit Of A Hint That Job Is An Overcomer

He Did Not Sin Nor Charge God With Any Wrongdoing

One Of The **Key's** To Overcoming Is To **Maintain A Pure Heart**

I Share This Story With You To Illustrate What Many Families Go Through Sometimes & What They Experience

His Story Illustrates Some Of The Challenges Families Have To Overcome

1. Overcoming **Loss** Of Family Members

Job Certainly Knew What It Was To Suffer The Loss Of Loved Ones.

It Would Be Devastating Enough To Lose One Child.

I Have Heard It Said By More Than One Person That One Of The Worst Experiences In The World Is To Out Live Your Child.

But Job Didn't Just Lose

- One Child
- Two Children

But Job Lost All Ten Of His Children On The Same Day

How Do Even Begin

- To Process That News?
- To Deal With Such Pain?

He Was In So Much Pain

The Bible Says His Friends Came To See Him And **Could Not Say Anything – They Just Sat And Wept With Him.**

Statistics Tell Us That The Rate Of Divorce Goes Sky High For A Couple Who Suffers The Loss Of A Child.

The Loss Of A Child Can Lead To Blaming One Another – Resentment.

If We Fail To Grieve Or Heal From This Kind Of Pain It Can Indeed Wreck Your Family.

There Are Many Here Today Who Know What It Is To Suffer The Loss Of A Family Member.

You Have Lost A

- Mom
- Dad
- Spouse
- Child
- A Loved One

Death Is So Hard On Families

It Redefines You

As The Pastor Shared In The Movie, **You Are Never The Same**

Job's Life Also Illustrates Another Crisis Many Families Have To Deal With

2. Overcoming Sickness

Job Was Stricken With A Very Painful Disease

Job 2:7 "Satan Went Out From The Presence Of The Lord, And Struck Job With Painful Boils From The Sole Of His Foot To The Crown Of His Head.

Job 2:8 And He Took For Himself A Potsherd With Which To Scrape Himself While He Sat In The Midst Of The Ashes."

The Thing About Sickness, Especially A Serious Sickness Is That It Can Affect The Entire Family.

Perhaps It's A Battle With

- Cancer
- A Stroke

It's Hard On

- The Family
- Caregiver

Sadly, I Have Heard Of More Than One Case That Instead Of Dealing With The Sickness, A Husband Or Wife Or Mom Or Dad Who Is Not Affected Just Leave The Whole Situation.

Multiple Trips To The Doctor And Ever Changing Diagnoses

Pretty Soon You Learn Why They Call It Practicing Medicine – Cause Many Of Them Are Guessing

Can Really Effect You

A Prolonged Sickness Can Also Have A Devastating Effect On Your Finances

3. Overcoming Financial Hardships

Job Lost All Of His Possessions

He Was

- A Rich Man
- One Of The Richest In His Entire Country

But In **One Day** He Lost Everything.

It Was

- The Equivalent Of A Stock Market Crash For Job.
- A Financial Catastrophe.

In **One Day** He Went Bankrupt.

Statistics Tell Us That A Job Loss Or A Bankruptcy Can Have A **Detrimental Effect** On Your Family.

Declaring Bankruptcy May Not Only Put Financial Strain On Yourself, But There Is A Good Risk That It Will Place Extra Burden On Your Relationships.

If You

- Lose Your Job
- Have A Significant Change In Your Income Or A Loss Of Income

Can Really Take Its Toll On Families

Small Things That You Used To Take For Granted

Such As

- Going Out For A Meal
- Planning A Holiday Away

Can Be Difficult.

This May Lead To Feelings Of Resentment.

Did You Know That Financial Stress Is A Leading Cause Of Divorce In Our Country?

Economic Hardships For Parents Often Means Economic Hardships For Children.

It Can Affect Their Education, College Options And More

A Drastic Change In A Family's Economic Picture Can **Dramatically Scar A Family**

There Are Other Things A Family May Have To Overcome That Are Not Common To Job

4. Overcoming Mistakes

This Is Not The Case With Job Because

His Testimony Was That He Was A God Fearing Man Who Did Nothing To Deserve All The Heartache He And His Wife Had To Endure

But That Is Not The Story Of Some Here Today

The Difficulties You Face Are Of Your Own Making – You Have Made Some Bad Choices And Your Family Is Paying The Price

How Do You Overcome That?

The Good News Is That You Can Overcome Your Mistakes

In The Movie, One Of The Characters Is A Man Who Is A Rookie Deputy Sheriff.

His Story Is That While He Was In College He Got A Cheerleader Pregnant.

He Wanted Her To Have An Abortion But She Refused.

He Abandoned Them Both

Several Years Later He Finds Christ.

And As A Result Begins To Determine To Make Things Right With His Daughter And Her Mother

David's Letter Video Clip (From Courageous)

It Takes Courage

- To Admit You Made A Mistake
- To Make Them Right

You May Be Here Thinking “This Is The Part Of The Service Where Pastor Jimmy Pounds On Me.”

I've Got Some Good News For You.

- You Can Overcome Your Mistakes
- God Will Give You The Courage To Do It

There Might Be Someone Here Today That Abortion Is Part Of Your Past

I Am Here To Tell You: **You Can Overcome It.**

Perhaps Your Marriage Has Experienced The Deep Wound Of Adultery

It's

- Painful
- Hurtful
- Damaging

But It Does Not Have To Destroy You Or Your Family

There Are More Than A Few Married Couples In This Room Today Who Can Testify To The Fact That God Can Heal You From Adultery.

God Can Restore

- Your Marriage
- Your Home
- Your Legacy.

It's Not Easy – But Its Possible.

With Forgiveness And Repentance And Humility It Can Happen

If Your Family Is Suffering Because Of Mistakes You Have Made

I Want To Challenge To Be Like The Man In This Video Clip

- Stop Making Excuses
- Stop Blaming Other People For Your Problems
- Look Squarely At Yourself,
- Repent To God And Make It Right With Your Family

God Sent Me Here Today To Tell You That You May Think There Is No Way Out But God Declares You Can Be An Overcoming Family

Maybe You Are Here & Have Experienced The Pain

- Of A Divorce.

- Of A Spouse Who Left You.

The Word For Divorce In The Bible Is Described As “**The Ripping Of Flesh.**”

The Two Become One Was Meant To Be Permanent.

Now Divorce Is Done

- The Scars Are There
- What Do You Do?

We Learn From Job

We Go Back To Job’s Story

Job 2:9 “Then His Wife Said To Him, "Do You Still Hold Fast To Your Integrity? Curse God And Die!"

Job 2:10 But He Said To Her, "You Speak As One Of The Foolish Women Speaks. Shall We Indeed Accept Good From God, And Shall We Not Accept Adversity?" In All This Job Did Not Sin With His Lips.”

There Are Some Here Who Might Just Empathize With Job’s Wife

You

- Lost So Much
- Have So Much Pain
- Have So Much Hurt
- Have So Much Loss
- Have So Much Emotion

You Get Angry

- With God
- With Life
- With The Pain

Satan Comes To You And

- Starts To Whisper In Your Ear
- Starts To Rise Up And Scream At You

- Why Don't You Quit
- Walk Out On Your Family – Get A Divorce
- Why Don't We Just Stop Trying
- Why Try To Be A Godly Man Or Woman...There Seems To Be No Reward In It
- Throw Away Your Relationship With God
- Why Don't You Do What Your Dad Did And Just Quit
- Just Quit

But You Can't Do That

God Has Sent Me Here Today To Say To You **“Don't Quit”**

He Has The Power To Help You Overcome

Pastor, Why Should I Even Keep Trying

Let Me Give You Some Reasons Why You Can't Quit

Why You Need To Overcome

1. For The Sake Of Your Family And Legacy

I Know This Seems So Obvious But It Is Worth Speaking About

In The Movie – Corporal Adam Mitchell And His Wife Are Trying To Make Sense Of The Loss Of Their 9 Year Old Daughter Emily.

He

- Shares His Regrets
- Says, “I Should Have Been A Better Father.”

His Wife's Reply Is Powerful, **“You Are Still A Father.”**

When You Experience Loss, Especially Of A Child, The Loss Can Be Paralyzing You Might

- Be Convinced Life Will Never Be The Same
- Feel Like You Don't Want To Go Forward

But You Can't

- Hide In The Closet
- Stay In Bed And Succumb To Depression

- Live Your Life In A Cocoon Of Fear

The Reason Why You Can't Is Because You Have A Family

They Need For You To Desperately Overcome.

What Should I Do

- Go To The Class
- Let Yourself Grieve
- Seek Help If Necessary
- Don't Turn To The Bottle Or The Pills Or
- Ask God To Heal Your Wounded Heart

He Can And He Will

2. Overcoming Difficulty Actually Makes Family Relationship Deeper And Stronger

Anybody Ever Hear The Statement: What Doesn't Kill You Will Make You Stronger There Are Many People Here Today Who Know Exactly What I Am Talking About.

When Trouble Comes Your Way, And It Will, After You Overcome It, Your Family Relationships Are Actually Stronger.

Because You Have Been

- Tested
- Drawn Together

There Is Something About Fire That

- Melts Things Together
- Forms Things Together

When You And Your Family Walk Through The Fire, You Come Out On The Other Side Stronger Than You Were Before

Show Me A Family That Has Been Through Some Trials And I Will Show You A Family That Knows What It Means To

- Care For Each Other

- Value What You Have
- Not Take Life For Granted.

Show Me A Family That Has Suffered Loss And Have Come Out On The Other Side & I Will Show You A Family That Knows What The Scripture Means “This Is The Day The Lord Has Made And I Will Rejoice And Be Glad In It.”

3. Because You Are Not Alone

- “God Said I Will Never Leave You Or Forsake You.” **Hebrews 13:5**

The Enemy Tries To Convince You That You Are All By Yourself

- “Though I Walk Through The Valley Of The Shadow Of Death . . . I Will Fear No Evil For You Are With Me.” **Psalm 23:4**
- “I Can Do All Things Through Christ Who Strengthens Me.” **Philippians 4:12**
- For I Am Convinced That Neither Death Nor Life, Neither Angels Nor Demons, Neither The Present Nor The Future, Nor Any Powers,

³⁹ 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.” **Romans 8:38-39**

4. Because God Will Reward You

The Best Part Of The Book Of Job Is The Last Chapter

Look What Came To Job

- Trials
- Calamity
- Difficulty
- Crisis

He And His Family

- Overcame Each One
- Made It Through The Valley

From Chapter 1 To Chapter 42 There Is A Whole Lot Of Emotion That Goes On

He's Got

- Ups & Downs
- Friends Who Aren't Really His Friend

- Telling Him You Deserve This

How Many Know Those Conversations Are Still Going On Today

People Will Say “You Deserve This”

You Want To Break Out In Song “Thank You For Being A Friend”

I Don’t Know Anyone Who Has Suffered Through A Crisis Who Hasn’t Suffered Some Nights Of

- Anger
- Crying
- Being Alone

Job Makes It Through To Chapter 42

Look What Happened To Job -

Job 42:10 “And The LORD Restored Job’s Losses **When He Prayed For His Friends.** Indeed The LORD Gave Job Twice As Much As He Had Before.

Job 42:11 Then All His Brothers, All His Sisters, And All Those Who Had Been His Acquaintances Before, Came To Him And Ate Food With Him In His House; And They Consoled Him And Comforted Him For All The Adversity That The LORD Had Brought Upon Him. Each One Gave Him A Piece Of Silver And Each A Ring Of Gold.

Job 42:12 Now The LORD Blessed The Latter Days Of Job More Than His Beginning; For He Had Fourteen Thousand Sheep, Six Thousand Camels, One Thousand Yoke Of Oxen, And One Thousand Female Donkeys.

Job 42:13 He Also Had Seven Sons And Three Daughters.

Job 42:14 And He Called The Name Of The First Jemimah, The Name Of The Second Keziah, And The Name Of The Third Keren-Happuch.

Job 42:15 In All The Land Were Found No Women So Beautiful As The Daughters Of Job; And Their Father Gave Them An Inheritance Among Their Brothers.

Job 42:16 After This Job Lived One Hundred And Forty Years, & Saw His Children & Grandchildren For Four Generations.

Job 42:17 So Job Died, Old And Full Of Days.

If You Find Yourself In The Middle Of

- A Trial
- A Crisis
- Pain And Heartache

I Have Some Good News.

God

- Has Not Forgotten You
- Has Not Abandoned You
- Loves You.

If You

- Will Stay Faithful
- Won't Quit
- Will Keep Your Heart Right

I'm Telling You

- God Will Reward You.
- "Your Latter Days Will Be Greater Than Your Former Days"

Some Of You Are Here And You Can't Even Think Of How

- It Can Be Better Than Before
- You Could Possibly Have Anything Any Greater Than What You Had

I'm Telling You It Is About Your Heart And Your Spirit

I Feel Like Today Is A **Right Now Moment** For Many People

You May Not

- **Know How** Right Now
- Not Be Able **To See It** Right Now
- Even Be Able **To Dream It** In Your Wildest Imagination Right Now

But With God's Help You Can Be An Overcomer

Conclusion

You Are Here Today Either Through A Fault Of Your Own Or Nobody's Fault And You Are Going Through One Of The Crisis I Mentioned Stand Right Now

Prayer For Those That Need To Overcome

Job 14:1 Man Who Is Born Of Woman Is Of Few Days And Full Of Trouble.

Job 19:25 For I Know That My Redeemer Lives, And He Shall Stand At Last On The Earth;

Job 19:26 and After My Skin Is Destroyed, This I Know, That In My Flesh I Shall See God,