

Supernatural Courage: God's Secret Weapon for Your Victory

(STUDY GUIDE)

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I. Introduction

- A. Heroes of the faith are often unlikely people chosen by God to do extraordinary things.
- B. Jesus is our model of all things supernatural, and He chose an unlikely group of disciples to advance the Church and demonstrate the Kingdom.
- C. We have the same commission today to declare and to demonstrate the Kingdom of God.
 - 1. Media-caused fear and a viciously divided government are causing people to feel destabilized by constant change and uncertainty.
 - 2. We need a brave company of fully activated men and women to send out the message of Jesus Christ to a shaken and afraid world.

II. Courage to Hope

- A. Hope is not some whimsical wish list, "Maybe if it all works out; we'll see if it happens."
- B. I actually was someone who was hopeless, but now I carry a message of hope.
 - 1. I hoped I would live.
 - 2. I hoped I could walk.
 - 3. I hoped I could jump out of an airplane again.
 - 4. I hoped I'd be able to see.
 - 5. I hoped I would be able to love and be in love.
 - 6. I hoped I'd be able to serve the Lord and make a difference.
- C. HOPE is the explosive expectation that God is going to do something.
- D. In Jesus' day, there were people who were hoping for the fulfillment of God's promise. *"Everyone was in a state of expectation and all reasoned in their hearts about John, whether he was the Christ or not."* (Luke 3:15)

1. When they identified John and acknowledged his supernatural message, he told them, *“No, I am not the one who is coming, He who is better.”*
2. John told them, *“I baptize with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.”*

E. Hope is waiting on the Lord.

1. To wait on the Lord is one of the most foundational truths of every believer. *“Therefore I will look to the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me.”* (Micah 7:7)
2. The Hebrew word used here means to wait, to expect with hopefulness for God’s mercy, His salvation and His rescue. While waiting, we are not taking matters into our own hands.
3. Hope is redemptive expectation. We have seen that when the Lord fulfills His promises the result is often much better—even if different than expected.

F. Hope is a living thing. *“Abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.”* (1 Peter 1:3)

G. Hope doesn’t disappoint. *“Now hope does not disappoint because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.”* (Romans 5:2–5)

III. Courage to Strengthen Yourself

A. Quotes:

1. *“To live in courage requires encouragement. And sometimes the only one to encourage you is you.”* Bill Johnson, pastor, Bethel Church, Redding, California.
2. *“In recent years it has become common knowledge that healthier food, regular exercise and the reduction of stress make for a longer and stronger life. In the same way, our spiritual lives will always need maintenance. We need genuine interaction with the Holy Spirit. We cannot just listen to self-help pep talks from trendy motivational speakers. We must learn how to skillfully use the keys the Lord provides for us.”* Jordan Rubin (opening paragraph of Chapter 5, *Supernatural Courage*).

B. Identifying and seeing who Jesus really is confirms your identity and strengthens you.

- C. **Knowing your identity as a child of God** maintains your strength in this world of pseudo-comparisons.
- D. **Cultivate primary relationships:** Stay in a cluster of people with “burning hearts.”
- E. **Something that strengthened me:**
1. A prophecy over me and my close friend and associate James Goll in Houston, Texas, 26 years ago.
 - a. “Ozzie had Harriet, Butch Cassidy had the Sundance kid, Cheech had Chong. The Lord has begun a yoking on the both of you.”
 - b. “Thunder, meet lightning. Nitro, meet Glycerin.”
 - c. “The Lord is going to use you together in a new, powerful way. You will do things together that you can never do individually apart from one another. You two will be fanning the flames of new moves of the Spirit that shall spread like wildfire (equipping, imparting, activating, and releasing multitudes).”
 - d. A few more words came in staccato machine gun-like exhortation, closing with, “Nevertheless this yoking has begun and will continue, and the Lord shall use you in new and powerful ways.”
 - e. “You think it’s funny, but the yoke is on you.”
 2. **Example:** 25 years later at a conference I was speaking at in June 2019, an authentic rocket scientist described the relationship James Goll and I have “hypergolic” —two different substances (fuel and oxidizer) igniting and/or exploding spontaneously when mixed with one another, creating tremendous power and output, even in the vacuum of outer space.
 3. **The cluster anointing** (Isaiah 65:8): It’s of major importance to be in a cluster with people you spark with. Example: Joseph and Empower 2000 have been building a “net of clusters,” prepared for the **now** and the **next**.
- F. Above all, **you must realize that at times you have to know how to do it yourself.**
1. David’s testimony (1 Samuel 30), “*But David strengthened (encouraged) himself in the Lord.*”
 2. The Hebrew word is “*chazaq*,” phonetic khak-zak, like Hezekiah means “strong in the Lord.”
 3. As individuals, we must learn how to Khak-zak ourselves.

4. Intentionally and radically hear from God, hear (David's father-in-law, Saul, with his adversary). After he strengthened himself, he asked for the only remaining Ephod to go in the presence of the Lord to hear from God.
5. Believe God and follow through with prophetic direction.
6. David took action steps in obedience to the Lord's direction.
7. David recovered all and gained back more than what he had lost.
8. They changed their policies to not leave their camp unguarded.

G. The power of Pentecost.

1. The direction to the disciples from the Lord as He ascended was to go into all the world.
 - a. They were to first wait until they received power from on high.
 - b. They waited but were still afraid of potential consequences of persecution.
 - c. But when the Holy Spirit was poured out, they were emboldened and the harvest began.
2. **Testimony:** I spoke to pastors in Cincinnati, Ohio.
 - a. We fasted for breakthrough.
 - b. We were strengthened in praise and worship
 - c. According to Acts 2:42 regarding apostolic doctrine, fellowship, breaking of bread and prayer, everyone was in a state of awe. We were strengthened and wondering what we needed to do next.
 - d. Isaiah 65:8 reveals the power of the cluster anointing.
 - e. With the rise of the prophetic in the last three decades, we learned not to neglect the importance of this strengthening ourselves with speaking in tongues.
 - f. *"But you, dear friends, must continue to build your most holy faith for your own benefit by continuing to pray in the Holy Spirit."* (Jude 1:20)

H. Strengthened in teamwork.

1. Jesus sent them out two by two: First the 12, and then the 70.
 - a. They came back amazed that even the demons believed when they exercised authority in His name.
 - b. Jesus rejoiced greatly in the Holy Spirit as He saw them "doing the stuff."
 - c. He declared that He saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven and that they should rejoice that their names are written in heaven.
2. **Example:** Testimony of a healing meeting with Mahesh Chavda in Ohio.

3. **Example:** Testimony of the international healing conference in Minneapolis with Bill Johnson.

I. **Stir up the gift of the Holy Spirit.**

1. Do not listen to today's naysayers/fear mongers. Do not be defiled by the bad reports God is raising up. Spiritual brave hearts, you're called to be them and to find others. (2 Timothy 1:6–7)
2. *"By smooth words he will turn to godlessness those who act wickedly toward the covenant, but the people who know their God will display strength and take action."* (Daniel 11:32, NASB)

IV. **Courage to Love**

A. **Love is the thread that binds.**

"In the tapestry of human experience that is woven together with its successes and failures, love is the thread that binds. Love—searching for it, finding it, losing it or never having known it may be the common denominator of all human drama. It is the one thing that is most needed. The only perfect love is the love of God. We must receive His love fully and continually, as we give it away to others. If you dare to pursue Him with a burning heart, you will risk rejection, being misunderstood, and maybe even persecution. But if you find the courage to love like God loves, you will be among the bravest of all."

B. Testimony at CBN with **Richard Wurmbrand:**

"This is supernatural courage from a 20th-century man and woman who proved that the power of God's love is greater than tribulation, injustice or even the imminent threat of death. The evidence was observable in Richard and Sabrina's countenance that day as their faces glowed with holy radiance. Love never fails, or love always wins." (1 Corinthians 13:8)

C. **Courage to love the unlovely.**

1. When I woke up from the deadly state I was in, I was so full of love it is hard now to even explain. I couldn't help but love everybody and was in a place of people, most who were irreparably sick and/or crippled, yet I didn't find

fault or unpleasant observation of any of them.

2. **Testimony of going into the Mansfield Reformatory:**

- a. I received the baptism of love.
- b. The Lord used it for some five years, every time we went in that place.
- c. That is an amazing example, that we are partakers of His divine nature, as it is designated in Peter's epistle.

V. The Warning of the Stronghold of Cold Love

"Because lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold." (Matthew 24:12)

A. Love is an action word.

1. *"But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection (perfect bond of unity)."* (Colossians 3:14)
2. This indicates that love is supposed to be continual, unbroken: *"Let brotherly love continue."* (Hebrews 13:1)

B. Charity is holy love.

1. Read three chapters starting on page 167 of the book, **Supernatural Courage**.
2. The courage to love penetrates deep and creates a remembrance that is more powerful than anything on the natural level.

C. Love is an action word: We must find ways to express the *love* of God.

1. The spiritual bravery of bold love can pierce the hardest heart and free those who are emotionally shackled.
2. Bold love demolishes strongholds.
3. Bold love encourages people who think they're hopeless.
4. Bold love inspires people **to walk on the wild side with Jesus**.