

Steeple News

November 2025 **Courage**

There are many times in our lives when we act with courage, even though we might not have thought that we acted courageous at the time. Courage is one those qualities we often need in our lives. It gives a person stability, confidence and a spirit of self-determination.

Today, some people believe this moral fiber is no longer needed because we have conquered those frightening frontiers of yesterday. But there is now and always will be an acute need for courage. The fact is this, if we had the courage to live out our convictions, most of life's problems would disappear.

It takes courage to admit we have made a mistake or admit that we are wrong. It takes courage to correct a wrong course we are taking. For example, there are thousands of alcoholics or drug dependents who found the courage to change, and who now face life without the terrifying journeys into oblivion. Glory is not in never failing, but rather in getting up every time you fall.

It takes courage for parents to sit down with their teenagers and bridge the communications gap between them. Husbands and wives on the brink of divorce need courage to mend their differences.

For the rest of us, it takes courage to become involved with life and the lives of the people around us. Often it requires courage just to discuss our problems. We need help to tolerate differences and to forgive those who have wronged us.

Some might agree that they do need courage but they just can't seem to find it. President John Kennedy, in his book, Profiles in Courage, said that courage requires no special qualifications, no magic formulas, no special combination of time, place or circumstance. It is an opportunity that sooner or later is presented to us all. Each one of us must decide for ourselves what course we must follow. The stories of past courage can define that ingredient - they can teach, they can offer hope, and they can provide inspiration. But they cannot supply courage itself. For courage must come from a deep look into one's own soul.

Rev. Hans Lillejord