

## COURAGE #1

Close to the end of his life, Moses gave some final words of encouragement to Joshua who would take his place as leader of God's people before they entered the land of Canaan. Deuteronomy 31:7-8 says "Then Moses called to Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, 'Be strong and courageous, for you shall go with this people into the land which the Lord has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall give it to them as an inheritance. The Lord is the one who goes ahead of you; He will be with you. He will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.'"

Joshua was successful because he listened to Moses and served God with courage and faithfulness. What a great example he is for us today. We will never be called upon to do exactly what Joshua did, but each of us as Christians must be ready to fight the good fight of faith with courage. We follow Jesus by learning and obeying His word and lead others by living and teaching the gospel message. Like Joshua, we must never forget that the Lord goes ahead of us, will always be with us and will never fail us. By heeding the encouragement of the Scriptures we can be strong and courageous and keep fear and discouragement from interfering with us reaching our promised land of heaven.