

## THE RESILIENT LIFE – “THERE IS POWER IN A DECISION” – Part 2

Text: Joshua 1:1-9

### III. THERE IS POWER IN A DECISION

There is always space between *knowing* the promises of God and *acting* on them, and that space can be the width of one \_\_\_\_\_ decision.

For Joshua, acting on the promises of God, required a three-fold decision: To *Exercise Courage*, to *Obey God’s Command*, and to *Saturate His Mind on the Word of God*.

These decisions are also good for us.

Joshua would make.....

#### A. A DECISION OF COURAGEOUS \_\_\_\_\_ (1:6, Ephesians 6:10)

“**Be Strong**” is a call for us to make the *decision* to rely on God’s strength and not our own. For a believer, it is only in having confidence in God’s strength that we can press forward in \_\_\_\_\_.

When crisis arrives in our lives, \_\_\_\_\_ is an uninvited guest.

**A.W. Tozer** – “*The only fear I have is to get out of the will of God. Outside the will of God, there’s nothing I want, and in the will of God, there’s nothing I fear.*”

#### B. A DECISION OF \_\_\_\_\_ OBEDIENCE (1:7)

God not only called for Joshua to be “*strong and courageous*”, but He told him the **purpose** for doing so. *Partial, fractional and restricted obedience* is total \_\_\_\_\_!!

One’s distaste for obedience, leaves them on the outside of God’s best blessings.

One decision of *total obedience* can be the difference between defeat or success during a crisis.

**Spiritually-immature Christians** tend to be *reactionary to life’s circumstances* rather than being *responsive to the \_\_\_\_\_ of God*. Let’s stop looking at *life’s obstacles* and let’s learn to keep our focus on our *destination*.

#### C. A DECISION OF CONTINUAL \_\_\_\_\_ (1:8)

“**MEDITATE**” = to muse, mutter or imagine; contemplation of thought.

Being painfully aware of the challenges that were sure to come in Joshua’s leading of the people of God, God directed Joshua to a place of **absolute obedience** to Himself and a **continual reliance on His Word**.

When we choose to allow our lives to be saturated in Scripture, it becomes easier to make decisions of courage acting in obedience to the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_!

\_\_\_\_\_ determine behavior. \_\_\_\_\_ precedes movement.

Permanent change in our lives is the result of daily commitment to the Word. (**Psalm 1:2**)

### **NINE WAYS TO FILL OUR MINDS WITH GOD’S WORD:**

1. Read a portion of scripture \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Listen to God’s Word while commuting to work, exercise or pleasure.
3. Position our lives to hear the Bible both preached and taught – regularly.
4. Study passages and \_\_\_\_\_ from the Bible.
5. Read Biblically-sound material that expounds on God’s Word.
6. Place Bible verses where they can be easily seen to be reminded of them.
7. Memorize Bible verses and think of them throughout the day.
8. Listen/sing songs that draw from scriptural truths.
9. Talk with fellow \_\_\_\_\_ about God’s Word.

To be a *Resilient Christian*, able to make courageous, faith-filled and God honoring decisions in times of crisis, don’t have just occasional encounters with Scripture. Let it become a part of us by dedicating our lives to *continual* \_\_\_\_\_. (**Colossians 3:16**)

**CONCLUSION:** Crisis comes to all of us. It gives a believer great relief to know that when crisis comes our way, God has prepared for us a way to deal with it. The same God who led Israel through the wilderness and prepared Joshua to lead them into the Promised Land is at work in our lives as well. It is from the life of Joshua that we can learn at least three vital lessons for a crisis: There is **Potential in a Problem, There is Promise with the Opportunity** and **There is \_\_\_\_\_ in a Decision**. Decisions in life can lead us to a place of great resilience as modern-day believers and these decisions can embolden us to move forward with a greater faith in God. Let’s decide to **Exercise Courage, Commit our lives to Complete Obedience** and to **Bathe/Saturate our minds with God’s Word**.

**NEXT LESSON: “FAITH IS GREATER THAN FEAR: OVERCOMING FEAR” (I Samuel 17:1-51)**