

Develop Courage and Overcome Fear

As you read and meditate on the scriptures, ask the Lord to speak to you about them. Look for a few scriptures as truths you'll stand on for your support-raising journey. At the end collect & record your favorites 😊.

Note: As this is a lot of scripture, a suggestion is to read a few pages per day during your devotions.

Joshua 1:5-9

5 No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. **6** Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them.

7 “Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. **8** Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. **9** Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”

2 Chronicles 15:7

7 But as for you, be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded.”

2 Chronicles 32:7-8

7 “Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged because of the king of Assyria and the vast army with him, for there is a greater power with us than with him. **8** With him is only the arm of flesh, but with us is the Lord our God to help us and to fight our battles.” And the people gained confidence from what Hezekiah the king of Judah said.

Ezra 10:4

4 Rise up; this matter is in your hands. We will support you, so take courage and do it.”

Psalms 23:4

4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley, [a] I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Psalms 27:1

1 The Lord is my light and my salvation— whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life— of whom shall I be afraid?

Psalms 27:14

14 Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

Psalm 34:4

4 I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears.

Psalm 56:3-4

3 When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. 4 In God, whose word I praise—in God I trust and am not afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?

Psalm 94:19

19 When anxiety was great within me, your consolation brought me joy.

Psalm 139:3-5

3 You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. 4 Before a word is on my tongue you, Lord, know it completely. 5 You hem me in behind and before and you lay your hand upon me.

Proverbs 29:25

25 Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe.

Isaiah 41:10

10 So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Haggai 2:4-5

4 But now be strong, Zerubbabel,' declares the Lord. 'Be strong, Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest. Be strong, all you people of the land,' declares the Lord, 'and work. For I am with you,' declares the Lord Almighty. 5 'This is what I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt. And my Spirit remains among you. Do not fear.

Matthew 6:25-33

25 "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? 26 Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? 27 Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life[a]?"

28 "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. 29 Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. 30 If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? 31 So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. 33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Matthew 8:26

26 He replied, “You of little faith, why are you so afraid?” Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm.

Matthew 14:22, 25-27

22 Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. **25** Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. **26** When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. “It’s a ghost,” they said, and cried out in fear. **27** But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage! It is I. Do not be afraid.”

John 14:27

27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

Philippians (4:6-7)

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. **7** And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. **13** I can do all this through him who gives me strength. (4:12-13).

2 Timothy 1:7

7 For God did not give us a spirit of fear. He gave us a spirit of power and of love and of a good mind.

To build your support-raising spiritual foundation, record several scripture references and corresponding truth(s) below that are most meaningful to you:

Promises for Support Raising

As you read and meditate on the scriptures, ask the Lord to speak to you about them. Mark those that are most significant to you regarding your support-raising journey.

GENESIS: Nothing is too hard for the Lord (18:14).

EXODUS: My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest (33:14).

DEUTERONOMY: Do not be afraid of them; the Lord your God himself will fight for you (3:22).

JOSHUA: Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful (1:8).

SECOND CHRONICLES: As for you, be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded (15:7). Have faith in the Lord your God and you will be upheld... (20:20).

PSALMS: I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you (32:8). Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart (37:4). The Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore (121:8).

PROVERBS: Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight (3:5-6). Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed (16:3). Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails (19:21).

ISAIAH: You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you (26:3). Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint (40:31). Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand (41:10).

JEREMIAH: I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart (29:11-13).

ZEPHANIAH: The Lord your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing (3:17).

MATTHEW: Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light (11:28-30).

ROMANS: In all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose, which is to be conformed to the likeness of his Son (8:28-29).

SECOND CORINTHIANS: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously; we should not give under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to us, so that in all things at all times, having all that we need, we will abound in every good work (9:6-8).

GALATIANS: As believers in Christ, we have been crucified with him, and it is no longer we who live, but Christ lives in us. The life we live in the body, we live by faith in the Son of God, who loved us and gave himself for us (2:20).

EPHESIANS: We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do (2:10). God is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us (3:20).

PHILIPPIANS: He who began a good work in us will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus (1:6). God works in us to will and to act according to his good purpose (2:13). I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus (3:14). God will meet all our needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus (4:19).

FIRST TIMOTHY: We are not to put our hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put our hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment (6:17).

SECOND TIMOTHY: God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline (1:7). God is able to guard what we have entrusted to him for the day when we see him (1:12).

HEBREWS: Because Christ himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted (2:18). We can approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need (4:16). Our hope in Christ is an anchor for the soul, firm and secure (6:19).

JAMES: The testing of our faith develops perseverance, and perseverance leads to maturity and completion (1:3-4). Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows (1:17). When we submit ourselves to God and resist the devil, he will flee from us (4:7). When we come near to God, he will come near to us (4:8).

FIRST PETER: We can cast all our anxiety on God because he cares for us (5:7). The God of all grace, who called us to his eternal glory in Christ, after we have suffered a little while, will himself restore us and make us strong, firm and steadfast (5:10).

SECOND PETER: God has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness (1:3).

FIRST JOHN: How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! (3:1). There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The man who fears is not made perfect in love (4:18).

JUDE: The Lord gives us the power to build ourselves up in our most holy faith and to pray in the Holy Spirit (v. 20). The Lord is able to keep us from falling and to present us before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy (v. 24).

REVELATION: He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away (21:4).

To build your support-raising spiritual foundation, record several scripture references and corresponding truth(s) below that are most meaningful to you:

Support Raising from the Proverbs

Proverbs 3:9-10

9 Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops;**10** then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.

Proverbs 10:4

4 Lazy hands make for poverty, but diligent hands bring wealth.

Proverbs 11:24-25

24 One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty.

25 A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.

Proverbs 14:23

23 All hard work brings a profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty.

Proverbs 28:19

19 Those who work their land will have abundant food, but those who chase fantasies will have their fill of poverty.

Proverbs 28:27

27 Those who give to the poor will lack nothing, but those who close their eyes to them receive many curses.

Proverbs 13:18

18 Whoever disregards discipline comes to poverty and shame, but whoever heeds correction is honored.

Proverbs 14:23

23 All hard work brings a profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty.

Proverbs 20:4

4 Sluggards do not plow in season; so at harvest time they look but find nothing.

Proverbs 21:5

5 The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty.

Proverbs 16:16

16 How much better to get wisdom than gold, to get insight rather than silver!

Proverbs 21:17

17 Better a dry crust with peace and quiet than a house full of feasting, with strife.

Proverbs 20:15

15 Gold there is, and rubies in abundance, but lips that speak knowledge are a rare jewel.

Proverbs 22:1

22 A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold.

Proverbs 28:6

6 Better the poor whose walk is blameless than the rich whose ways are perverse.

How God Funded Ministry in the Bible

1 Kings 17:1-16

5 So he did what the Lord had told him. He went to the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan, and stayed there. 6 The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook.

Elijah and the Widow at Zarephath

7 Some time later the brook dried up because there had been no rain in the land. 8 Then the word of the Lord came to him: 9 “Go at once to Zarephath in the region of Sidon and stay there. I have directed a widow there to supply you with food.” 10 So he went to Zarephath. When he came to the town gate, a widow was there gathering sticks. He called to her and asked, “Would you bring me a little water in a jar so I may have a drink?” 11 As she was going to get it, he called, “And bring me, please, a piece of bread.”

12 “As surely as the Lord your God lives,” she replied, “I don’t have any bread—only a handful of flour in a jar and a little olive oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die.”

13 Elijah said to her, “Don’t be afraid. Go home and do as you have said. But first make a small loaf of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son. 14 For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: ‘The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the Lord sends rain on the land.’”

15 She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family. **16** For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the Lord spoken by Elijah.

Nehemiah 2:1-8

2 In the month of Nisan in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was brought for him, I took the wine and gave it to the king. I had not been sad in his presence before, **2** so the king asked me, “Why does your face look so sad when you are not ill? This can be nothing but sadness of heart.”

I was very much afraid, **3** but I said to the king, “May the king live forever! Why should my face not look sad when the city where my ancestors are buried lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?”

4 The king said to me, “What is it you want?”

Then I prayed to the God of heaven, **5** and I answered the king, “If it pleases the king and if your servant has found favor in his sight, let him send me to the city in Judah where my ancestors are buried so that I can rebuild it.”

6 Then the king, with the queen sitting beside him, asked me, “How long will your journey take, and when will you get back?” It pleased the king to send me; so I set a time.

7 I also said to him, “If it pleases the king, may I have letters to the governors of Trans-Euphrates, so that they will provide me safe-conduct until I arrive in Judah? **8** And may I have a letter to Asaph, keeper of the royal park, so he will give me timber to make beams for the gates of the citadel by the temple and for the city wall and for the residence I will occupy?” And because the gracious hand of my God was on me, the king granted my requests.

Malachi 3:10 - ¹⁰ Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the LORD Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.

Matthew 10:5-15

New International Version (NIV)

5 These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans. **6** Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel. **7** As you go, proclaim this message: ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ **8** Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, [**a**] drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.

9 “Do not get any gold or silver or copper to take with you in your belts— **10** no bag for the journey or extra shirt or sandals or a staff, for the worker is worth his keep.

11 Whatever town or village you enter, search there for some worthy person and stay at their house until you leave. **12** As you enter the home, give it your greeting. **13** If the home is deserving, let your peace rest on it; if it is not, let your peace return to you. **14** If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, leave that home or town and shake

the dust off your feet. **15** Truly I tell you, it will be more bearable for Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

Luke 8:1-3

8 After this, Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him, **2** and also some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases: Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come out; **3** Joanna the wife of Chuza, the manager of Herod's household; Susanna; and many others. These women were helping to support them out of their own means.

Luke 10:1-7

10 After this the Lord appointed seventy-two[**a**] others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. **2** He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. **3** Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. **4** Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road.

5 "When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.' **6** If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. **7** Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house.

Luke 16:10-12

10 "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. **11** So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? **12** And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?"

Luke 21:1-4

21 As Jesus looked up, he saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. **2** He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins. **3** "Truly I tell you," he said, "this poor widow has put in more than all the others. **4** All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on."

Acts 4:32-37

32 All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. **33** With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all **34** that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales **35** and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

36 Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means “son of encouragement”), **37** sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles’ feet.

Acts 10:1-4

10 At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion in what was known as the Italian Regiment. **2** He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly. **3** One day at about three in the afternoon he had a vision. He distinctly saw an angel of God, who came to him and said, “Cornelius!”

4 Cornelius stared at him in fear. “What is it, Lord?” he asked.

The angel answered, “Your prayers and gifts to the poor have come up as a memorial offering before God.

Acts 11:27-30

27 During this time some prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. **28** One of them, named Agabus, stood up and through the Spirit predicted that a severe famine would spread over the entire Roman world. (This happened during the reign of Claudius.)

29 The disciples, as each one was able, decided to provide help for the brothers and sisters living in Judea. **30** This they did, sending their gift to the elders by Barnabas and Saul.

Acts 18:1-5

18 After this, Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. **2** There he met a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, **3** and because he was a tentmaker as they were, he stayed and worked with them. **4** Every Sabbath he reasoned in the synagogue, trying to persuade Jews and Greeks.

5 When Silas and Timothy came from Macedonia, Paul devoted himself exclusively to preaching, testifying to the Jews that Jesus was the Messiah.

Romans 15:20,23-24

20 It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else’s foundation. **23** But now that there is no more place for me to work in these regions, and since I have been longing for many years to visit you, **24** I plan to do so when I go to Spain. I hope to see you while passing through and to have you assist me on my journey there, after I have enjoyed your company for a while.

1 Corinthians 16:1-6

16 Now about the collection for the Lord’s people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do. **2** On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made. **3** Then, when I arrive, I will give letters of introduction to the men you approve

and send them with your gift to Jerusalem. **4** If it seems advisable for me to go also, they will accompany me. **5** After I go through Macedonia, I will come to you—for I will be going through Macedonia. **6** Perhaps I will stay with you for a while, or even spend the winter, so that you can help me on my journey, wherever I go.

2 Corinthians 9:1-15 - 1 I really don't need to write to you about this ministry of giving for the believers in Jerusalem.[a] 2 For I know how eager you are to help, and I have been boasting to the churches in Macedonia that you in Greece[b] were ready to send an offering a year ago. In fact, it was your enthusiasm that stirred up many of the Macedonian believers to begin giving. 3 But I am sending these brothers to be sure you really are ready, as I have been telling them, and that your money is all collected. I don't want to be wrong in my boasting about you. 4 We would be embarrassed—not to mention your own embarrassment—if some Macedonian believers came with me and found that you weren't ready after all I had told them! 5 So I thought I should send these brothers ahead of me to make sure the gift you promised is ready. But I want it to be a willing gift, not one given grudgingly. 6 Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. 7 You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully." [c] 8 And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others. 9 As the Scriptures say, "They share freely and give generously to the poor. Their good deeds will be remembered forever." 10 For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity [e] in you. 11 Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous. And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God.

Philippians 4:10-20

10 I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. **11** I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. **12** I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. **13** I can do all this through him who gives me strength. **14** Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles. **15** Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; **16** for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need. **17** Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account. **18** I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. **19** And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

1 Timothy 5:17-18

17 The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. **18** For Scripture says, “Do not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain,”[a] and “The worker deserves his wages.”[b]

3 John 1:5-8

5 Dear friend, you are faithful in what you are doing for the brothers and sisters,[a] even though they are strangers to you. **6** They have told the church about your love. Please send them on their way in a manner that honors God. **7** It was for the sake of the Name that they went out, receiving no help from the pagans. **8** We ought therefore to show hospitality to such people so that we may work together for the truth.

To help build your support-raising spiritual foundation, skim back through your notes and record below a few scriptures as truths you’ll stand on for your support-raising journey. Record the scripture references and corresponding truth(s) that are meaningful to you: