

1 Thessalonians Series

Lesson #025

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Dean Bible Ministries

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Bold, Courageous, and Gracious

1 Thessalonians 2:1–2



1ST
THESSALONIANS

THEREFORE, COMFORT ONE
ANOTHER WITH THESE WORDS

1 Thess. 2:1, “For you yourselves know, brethren, that our coming to you was not in vain.

1 Thess. 2:2, “But even after we had suffered before and were spitefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we were bold in our God to speak to you the gospel of God in much conflict.”

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Philippi

Neapolis

Thessalonica

Alexandroupolis

Amphipolis

Berea

Spathes

Dion

Meteora

Tempe

Ioannina

Dodona

Nicopolis

Delphi

Antirio

Eleusis

Athens

Corinth

Cenchrea

Olympia

Mycenae

Argos

Tiryns

Bassae

Via Egnatia

Via Egnatia

Stremones R.

Mt. Olympus

Mt. Parnassos

Mt. Panachaiko



0 25 50 100 mi.
0 40 80 160 km

Acts 19:8, “And he went into the synagogue and spoke boldly for three months, reasoning and persuading concerning the things of the kingdom of God.”

1 Thess. 2:2, “But even after we had suffered before and were spitefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we were bold in our God to speak to you the gospel of God in much conflict.”

παρρησιάζομαι *parrēsiazomai*

aor mid indic 1 plur

“to speak with confidence, boldness, and courage”

Acts 16:22, “Then the multitude rose up together against them; and the magistrates tore off their clothes and commanded them to be beaten with rods.

Acts 16:23, “And when they had laid many stripes on them, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them securely.

Acts 16:24, “Having received such a charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.”

**παρρησιάζομαι *parrēsiāzomai* aor mid
indic 1 plur to speak with confidence,
boldness, and courage.**

**① express oneself freely, *speak freely,*
*openly, fearlessly***

**② When used with the infinitive π.
gains the sense *have the courage,*
venture 1 Thess. 2:2**

**παρρησία *parrēsia* boldness; a state of
boldness, courage, confidence**

θαρσέω *tharseō*

to be confident, courageous;

θάρσος *tharsos* courage

2. Courage means the ability to do something even when we are afraid, in pain, or overwhelmed by emotions such as grief or sorrow and despite possible negative consequences.

3. Differing types of courage: physical or battle courage; moral courage; spiritual courage.

4. Courage is often related to confidence. In physical courage, we have confidence in our training, or our ability to face a physical threat.

In moral courage, we have confidence in the rightness of our action.

In spiritual courage, we have confidence in God and His ability to sustain us in times of adversity, hostility, and suffering or persecution.

Heb. 10:33, “partly while you were made a spectacle both by reproaches and tribulations, and partly while you became companions of those who were so treated;

Heb. 10:34, “for you had compassion on me in my chains, and joyfully accepted the plundering of your goods, knowing that you have a better and an enduring possession for yourselves in heaven.

Heb. 10:35, “Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward.”

5. In spiritual courage, our confidence is in God so we can act courageously in fulfilling God's mission for us empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Psa. 138:3, “In the day when I cried out, You answered me, and made me bold with strength in my soul.”

1 Thess. 2:2, “as you know, we were bold in our God to speak to you the gospel of God in much conflict.”

6. To be spiritually courageous we should first be right with God, which means in fellowship.

7. Spiritual courage is grounded in our relationship with God, our faith directed toward Him.

Eph. 3:12, “in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.”

8. Courage is needed in every area of application of doctrine, but especially in those areas involving people.

9. In 1 Thess. 2 Paul reminds them of the spiritual courage he had to speak boldly and face the physical consequences of torture and imprisonment when he was in Philippi.

2 Cor. 11:23, “Are they ministers of Christ?—I speak as a fool—I am more: in labors more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequently, in deaths often.

2 Cor. 11:24, “From the Jews five times I received forty stripes minus one.”

2 Cor. 11:25, “Three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the deep;

2 Cor. 11:26, “in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren;

2 Cor. 11:27, “in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness—

2 Cor. 11:28, “besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches.”

10. Paul was not exceptionally courageous as a human being. In fact, a case might be made that when unsaved, he manifested traits of being a bully and intimidating people. Mostly Paul was like us.

1 Cor. 2:3, “I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling.”

2 Cor. 7:5, “For indeed, when we came to Macedonia, our bodies had no rest, but we were troubled on every side. Outside were conflicts, inside were fears.”

11. The solution is to walk by the Spirit and trust in the Lord.

Heb. 13:6, “So we may boldly say: ‘The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?’ ”

Psa. 56:11, “In God I have put my trust, I shall not be afraid. What can man do to me?”