



making disciples McClain Family Update

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“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9

The Lord seems to be speaking to us with this continued theme: COURAGE. Joshua’s story has always been a favorite, but the Lord has brought out new and exciting truths from his story to us recently. In Deuteronomy 31, Moses repeats twice this theme of being strong and courageous, not afraid or terrified or discouraged. He reminds his people that their Lord, his God, will never leave them or forsake them. Joshua himself then commands the Israelites to be strong and courageous later in the same chapter. This theme continues throughout the book of Joshua and is repeated four times in Joshua 1 alone. It goes without saying that the Lord is teaching us that we need not be afraid nor discouraged. We are commanded to be strong and very courageous! The command is often followed by the warning to be careful to love and obey God and not to turn from His ways.

“But be very careful to keep the commandment and the law that Moses the servant of the Lord gave you: to love the Lord your God, to walk in His ways, to obey His commands, to hold fast to Him and to serve him with all your heart and soul.” Joshua 22:5

Joshua also diligently reminds the Israelites of God’s faithfulness. Several times he reminds them that not one of the Lord’s promises failed— every one was fulfilled (Joshua 21:45). Joshua was a man of great courage and integrity and he truly feared the Lord. He was a mighty soldier and vigorously fought in battles even at eighty-five years old! He loved the Lord and cared for His people. Just before He died he commissioned the Israelites to: “Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve...” and then he publically declared his devotion to his Lord at the end of Joshua 24:15: **“But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”**

Pray with us this month, will you? Pray that we will be strong and very courageous. Pray against terror and discouragement in our lives. Pray that our faith be strong and we would not turn to the left or the right, but keep walking in the way of the Lord. Pray that we would be very careful to keep the commandments of our Lord. Pray that we would love the Lord our God with all of our heart and soul, mind and strength. Pray that we would hold fast to Him and to His faithfulness. Pray that our household would always courageously serve Jesus. Pray that the Lord might see fit to use our family as a light in Villarreal. Pray that all those around us see a difference in us. Pray that we continually give our bodies, lives, daily activities to God in offering. Pray that we would love genuinely. Pray that God would be glorified through the ministry of Potter’s Field Kids. Pray for integrity and unity in our ministry team. Pray for the youth of Villarreal. Pray that they would be sold out for Jesus. Pray that they would love God with all their hearts and souls. Pray that they would guard their hearts. Pray for the young children who live in broken homes. Pray for the children who live without love. Pray for those who are fatherless. Pray for the PFK interns to live lives that glorify Jesus. Pray for the young girls in the church and PFK. Pray that the Lord would finally break the ugly cycle of abuse, pregnancy, and abandonment in the lives. Pray for a special overnight activity with these girls this month— the first of its kind. Pray for God to demonstrate His love to them in a powerful, undeniable way and for hearts to be changed for eternity. Please continue to pray for Calvary Chapel Villarreal, Pastor Phil and his family, Santiago and his family, Victor and his family. Helyi and her family. Pray for the men and leaders of the church to courageously lead their families. Pray for the financial needs of the church and missionaries. THANK YOU!

**We are thankful for our prayer and financial partners. Please make checks payable to:
Shepherd’s Staff Mission Facilitators, PO Box 53640, Albuquerque, NM, 87153-3640
Please include our missionary account #4208 and Matt and Brooke McClain on all checks or correspondence**