**Lead Like Jesus – Courage**Small Group Discussion GuideOctober 12, 2025

### Sermon Recap

This week’s message focused on courage — the call to trust God and step forward even when fear feels overwhelming.
Drawing from **Joshua 1:1–9** and **Matthew 27:11–26**, Pastor Josh explored how courage is not the absence of fear but the decision to move forward in faith, grounded in God’s promises and presence. Jesus displayed ultimate courage before Pilate, standing firm in truth and love despite opposition. We, too, are invited to live with courageous love that overcomes fear and leads others to hope.

### Opening Prayer

Faithful God, you promise to be with us wherever we go. When we face fear or uncertainty, remind us of your strength and presence. Fill us with courage to follow you faithfully and to act in love even when it costs us something. Amen.

### Icebreaker Question

When have you had to act courageously in your life — big or small? What helped you step forward despite fear?

### Key Points

1. True courage is not the absence of fear but moving forward in faith despite it.
2. God’s promise to Joshua — “I will be with you wherever you go” — still holds true for us today.
3. Jesus models courage rooted in love, not anger or control.
4. Courage begins with small daily acts of obedience and trust.
5. Perfect love casts out fear (1 John 4:18).

### Key Quotes

* “For Jesus, courage is about others.”
* “When we are free of fear, we are free to love.”
* “Jesus refused to live in fear. He refused to be intimidated or silenced.”
* “The courage Jesus showed was a courage to love, even his enemies.”

### Bible Readings

* Joshua 1:1–9
* Matthew 27:11–26
* 1 John 4:18
* Isaiah 43:1–2
* John 14:27
* 1 Peter 5:7–9a

### Discussion Questions

1. Where in your life do you sense God calling you to courage right now?
2. How does the courage we see in the bible, particularly in Jesus, differ from our culture’s idea of courage?
3. How does God’s promise to Joshua — “I will be with you wherever you go” — speak to your current fears or challenges?
4. What can we learn from Jesus’ courage before Pilate about how to respond to conflict or injustice today?
5. How can love help us to overcome fear? (1 John 4:18)
6. What small act of courage can you practice this week?

### What’s Next?

This week, when you feel afraid or uncertain, take a moment to pray,
“God, give me courage to act in love.”
Then choose one situation — big or small — where you will act in faith despite fear. Remember: you never step forward alone!

### Closing Prayer

God of strength and love, thank you for being with us wherever we go. When fear rises, remind us of your promises.
Fill us with courage to stand for truth, to love boldly, and to trust you completely. Amen.