



October 2024

Theme: Boldness to Move Forward

Scripture Passage: Joshua 1:9 (NIV)

A popular social media meme reads, "You can't reach the top of the mountain just by looking at it—you have to take steps."

In life and ministry, it's one thing to say that we are going to do something, and another to do it.

Our dreams, visions, and plans are important, but it is the actions that lead us toward the future that God desires for us. Moving forward toward God's future with boldness is deeply rooted in faith and trust in God's guidance and provision.

Scripture encourages us to step out in faith, even when the path ahead is not necessarily clear. The boldness I am referring to is not about self-reliance but rather a confidence that comes from knowing God is with us.

In the Bible, we can learn from the experiences of people like Abraham, who left behind all that was known to him following God's vision for his life and family, or Joshua, who was told by God to "be strong and courageous" as he prepared to lead the people of Israel into the Promised Land, and Peter, who stepped out of the boat to walk on water in response to Jesus' invitation.

Moving forward boldly means trusting God's promises and presence in all we do. It requires that we surrender our fears and doubts to God, knowing that through the Holy Spirit, we are equipped for the journey ahead and that God will provide all we need for the journey and to achieve God's dream for our lives, ministries, and the communities we serve.

Moving forward with boldness is about embracing the call to live out our faith even when it challenges us to step outside our comfort zones, into new possibilities, and even into the unknown. When we move forward taking concrete steps towards God's vision, as little as they might be, we demonstrate our reliance on God's strengths rather than our own, and we embody the belief that all things are possible with God.

As you reflect about where God is leading you in this season, I offer you some questions to help you assess whether you are moving forward with boldness. Ask yourself:

- Am I trusting God with my fears and uncertainties? In other words, do I place my faith in God's guidance even when the path ahead is unclear?
- Am I willing to take risks for what I believe is right, despite potential challenges or setbacks?
- Do I seek God's direction in my decisions?
- Am I acting on my faith, or am I holding back out of fear?
- Do I persevere through difficulties, trusting God's plan?
- Am I a source of encouragement for others, helping them trust God and move forward in their lives?

This month, during your moments of prayer, make time to reflect on these questions and allow the Holy Spirit to lead the way as we seek to live the gospel and embody God's love with all our neighbors. And always remember—as you take the steps toward the top of your mountain—that all things are possible with Jesus Christ, who strengthens us.

Let's pray together; "Guiding God, grant us the courage to step forward with confidence. Help us trust in Your guidance and strength as we pursue the path you have set before us. Let fear and doubt fall away, replaced by the boldness that comes from faith and trust in You. Amen."

Peace of Christ be with you.

Prayer for the Month

God, grant us the courage to step forward with confidence. Help us trust in Your guidance and strength as we pursue the path you have set before us. Let fear and doubt fall away, replaced by the boldness that comes from faith and trust in You. Amen.

Prayer Queues or Breath Prayers for the Month

- Oct. 6 – Lord, grant me a vision for the future worth leaving everything behind to pursue it.
- Oct. 13 – God, grant me the strength and courage to move forward towards your promises.
- Oct. 20 – Lord, grant me the trust and boldness to step out of my boat and into the waters that lead to your preferred future for me.
- Oct. 27 – God, as I move forward with boldness, may I inspire and encourage to trust in your guidance and provision.

