

Our Lord's Followers: Assertive & Very Courageous!

Dear Friends in Christ Jesus our Lord,

The next video in our Mutually Serving Jesus Your Lord With Resolute Determination series is available on Youtube <>. In this video Mike discusses a specific painful consequence of not being resolute in pursuing the Holy Spirit's *rhema* – a **soul-dominated paralysis of analysis**.

Your resolute pursuit of the Holy Spirit's *rhema* is a tremendous help in keeping you free from being paralyzed by your sin nature and your stronghold-dominated soul if you're allowing them to influence you. And, the Holy Spirit's rule of your soul through your spirit gives you **assertive courage** as you serve and represent Jesus as your Lord in the world. The assertive courage we're referring to isn't an overbearing or prideful attitude. Rather, it flows from His love and the humility of heart that's required of our Lord's slave/servant who is seeking and obeying His Spirit's *rhema*.

Our Lord's Followers Are Humbly Assertive!

Christ-like assertiveness is a holy boldness that's undergirded by His love. It gives us courage to fully serve as His ambassadors in obedient trust no matter what the circumstances. The choice is ours: to live in fear and be **under-assertive**; to live in arrogance as **over-assertive**; or to live in Spirit-breathed **Christ-like assertiveness**.

The emotional climate in this nation is becoming so painfully volatile that we who follow our Lord Jesus need to understand how important it is to live with **Christ-like assertiveness**. This biblical response is made possible through hearing the voice and the prompting of the indwelling Holy Spirit. Christ-like assertiveness is a sign that we're truly abiding in dependent trust in the Spirit of Jesus within us.

If you'd like to know more about Christlike assertive living, please read *Kingdom Living Today*, 33. "*Blessed Are The Meek, For They Will Inherit The Earth.*"

<[https://restorationministries.org/download/](https://restorationministries.org/download/33.kingdomlivingtoday.pdf)

[33.kingdomlivingtoday.pdf](https://restorationministries.org/download/33.kingdomlivingtoday.pdf)> Also, attached to this email you'll find our assertiveness inventory to evaluate you and those close to you. **attach assertiveness inventory**

Our Lord's Followers Are Very Courageous!

In our book, *God's Instruments For War*, we include a vision that was shared with us by a close friend in 1986. Since then we've sadly observed the deepening spiritual narcosis within Christianity as well as the demonic takeover of this nation. Both phenomena have gained control because of the **under-assertive cowardice** of so many whose lives defame the Name of our Lord Jesus.

A Parable of War

by Paul Knight

"We were sitting outside the village frustrated. We had been enlisted to defend and win the allegiance of the members of the village for the Crown. But there seemed to be so little response to the consistent goodness of the throne. We, the soldiers of the King, were growing tired and apathy was around us like a dense fog.

It was then that we heard the blast of the horns warning us that they were advancing. The Enemy, whom we had grown to hate and despise, was advancing his troops close to the village.

We knew full well that the enemy and his workers were ruthless. They breathed the fire of hatred. As the others around us began to speak, we knew that the village we were caring for and seeking to win would be devastated.

One of the female soldiers with us began to cry out in alarm for the innocent children who would be devoured in the jaws

of wickedness and deprivation. Her voice cracked with fear and urgency, for she had been one of their prisoners. Her scars, emotional and physical, were still fresh.

Those around the woman, knowing that the King had prepared us with a power far beyond that of our enemy's, stood in resolve to fight. We shouted to our fellow soldiers to stand and bear arms for the King, to defend the village and to fight against the advance of the army.

We sent messengers into the village, sounding warnings again and again that the enemy would take prisoners. We testified to the tactics of the enemy and to the promised care for those who follow the King. Some followed and took up arms with us. We resolved to defend to the end those left and to continue begging their enlistment under the King's banner.

When we returned to our camp outside the village, we again tried to rally our fellow soldiers to stand and to prepare for battle. The enemy had landed and was advancing with greater strength. We could hear the hellish cries of those who were being taken and those who so joyously performed the enemy's deeds of war. From the infants to the aged, we knew that they would be trampled and put in bondage. Untold horrors would be their fate. We again cried out to our fellow soldiers to stand and to fight.

A few of us ran to our fellow soldiers and with tear-filled eyes begged them to stand and to bear arms. But the fog had grown so thick, it seemed not only to block their vision but to silence our cries in their ears. They continued to rest and to talk.

One of our comrades was again explaining how to fight, how to use weapons. He was explaining the need to defend ourselves and the people of the village. With sweat on his brow and with great passion he began to lift our fellow soldiers up, urging them to stand. In panic he was running from person to person, propping them up, but they did not want to stand. In exhaustion, our comrade fell among them. We wept.

With greater determination we began to fight, still urging our fellow soldiers to stand. All around us the devastation, even of the King's army, began to overwhelm us. Still we cried out to stand and to bear arms for the One Who cared for us.

We shouted out the names of the villagers. With fading breath we called out, 'Help us, please fight with us. The enemy is here!'"

Ever since Paul shared this vision with us so many years ago, it has painfully haunted us because we have spent years observing the increasing spiritual lethargy and under-assertiveness. Some of this lethargy and under-assertiveness is seen in Christians who hold onto unconfessed sin and listen to the voices of strongholds in their souls. Others, because they feel that our Father and/or their parents have let them down, have followed a lifelong pattern of being either over-assertive or under-assertive, with many imprisoned in the paralysis of analysis. The video will explain more.

Each one of us who claims to belong to our Lord Jesus as His beloved slave/servants need to live by His promise as our reality, ***“So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed”*** (John 8:36). He has set us assertively free to serve Him with His glorious love and holy boldness!

Mike & Sue

Something Oswald Chambers shared 100 years ago is a fitting ending to this email:

Sanctification means not only that we are delivered from sin, but that we start on a life of stern discipline. It is not a question of praying but of deliberately disciplining ourselves. ... It is not wrong things that have to be sacrificed but right things. ... The danger is to argue on the line of only giving up what is wrong;

[in Mark 9:42-50] Jesus Christ selected things essential to a full-orbed life—the right hand and the eye, these are not bad things, they are creations of God.

Jesus Christ talked rugged, unmitigated truth. He was never ambiguous, and He says it is better to be maimed than damned. There was never a saint yet who did not have to start with a maimed life. Anyone will give up wrong things if he knows how to, but will I give up the best I have for Jesus Christ? If I am only willing to give up wrong things, never let me talk about being in love with Him! We say, "Why shouldn't I do it, there is no harm in it?" For pity's sake, go and do it, but remember that the construction of a spiritual character is doomed once you take that line.