

WORDS TO LIVE BY

Also by Dr. Jack Trieber

Counsel

Lessons in Leadership
Men Ought Always to Pray
Principles of Stewardship
The Blessing of the Lord
The Comforter Has Come
Truth for Teens



WORDS
TO LIVE BY



DR. JACK TRIEBER

©2011 North Valley Publications

All Scripture references are taken from the King James Version.

North Valley Publications, a ministry of North Valley Baptist Church in Santa Clara, California, is dedicated to providing resources to strengthen you, your family, and your ministry for the cause of Christ. We value your comments and suggestions.

All rights reserved. Except as permitted under the U.S. Copyright Act of 1976, no part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means, or stored in a database or retrieval system, without the written permission of the publisher, except for brief quotations in printed reviews.

North Valley Publications
3530 De La Cruz Boulevard
Santa Clara, CA 95054
408.988.8881
nvpublications.org

Edited by Crissi Hussin, Sarah Uson, Jo Winn, and Nathan Winn

Cover Design by Jad Limcaco

Layout by Nathan Winn

ISBN: 978-1-60171-693-4

Printed in the United States of America

DEDICATION

Words to Live By is gladly dedicated to the members of the North Valley Baptist Church; for this book is simply an aggregation of their traits, a literary study into their very fiber. In moments and in decades, weaved together through time, are words that have branded these dear people of God—*holiness, love, faithfulness, courage, vision*, among many others you will read in this atypical biography of theirs. To the church family of North Valley, I thank you for the incredible journey we have enjoyed together thus far. I trust that, by reading this book, you might better understand the extent of how honored I am to be your pastor and how much I love you.

This dedication would be amiss if I did not also include my mate who has stood by my side these many years of pastoring. I thank my precious wife Cindie as well as our three children—Tiffany, Timothy, and Tabitha—and their wonderful mates—Ryan, Rebecca, and Chris. In the day-to-day and in the extraordinary, your lives truly mirror these *Words to Live By*. I love each of you dearly.

—Dr. Jack Trieber

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	ix
1 Courage <i>“Be strong and of a good courage: be not afraid.”</i>	1
2 Faith <i>“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for.”</i>	11
3 Faithful. <i>“For he was a faithful man, and feared God.”</i>	19
4 Follow <i>“Then he arose, and went after Elijah.”</i>	29
5 Holiness <i>“Denying ungodliness and worldly lusts.”</i>	41
6 Honesty. <i>“Let us walk honestly, as in the day.”</i>	51
7 Humility <i>“How long wilt thou refuse to humble thyself?”</i>	57
8 Kindness <i>“And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted.”</i>	69
9 Spirit <i>“The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity.”</i>	75
10 Submission. <i>“Submitting yourselves one to another.”</i>	81

11	Vision.93
	<i>“Where there is no vision, the people perish.”</i>	
12	Train99
	<i>“Train up a child in the way he should go.”</i>	
13	Love.	105
	<i>“We love him, because he first loved us.”</i>	
14	Sold-out	117
	<i>“That in nothing I shall be ashamed.”</i>	
15	Gratitude.	129
	<i>“In every thing give thanks.”</i>	
16	Work	139
	<i>“Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work.”</i>	

I N T R O D U C T I O N

Life is not complicated. For example, the Ten Commandments, sufficient to govern a nation yet simple enough to guide our lives, are not complicated. This pattern of simplicity is in the Bible and in the successful Christian life; however, there are times when we seem to handicap ourselves with the trite and irrelevant. Thus, this book is an intentionally uncomplicated look at the Christian life, with every chapter highlighting only one word. I believe that each word, once integrated into our daily living, will help develop a life of character and integrity.

Thank you for taking the time to read *Words to Live By*. It is my prayer that this book will be a help to you and your family as well as to churches and Christian schools across the country. God bless you.



WORDS
TO LIVE BY





C O U R A G E



“Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.”

—JOSHUA 1:9

Courage is a word that is missing in our vocabulary. Read newspapers and listen to news reports for any amount of time, and you will be led to believe that America is coming apart at the seams. But this is still “the land of the free and the home of the brave,” and American flags still fly proudly across this great country. I am proud to be an American, as you are. The socialist agenda and forms of corruption may be creeping in, but this nation is not yet lost. There is still a God in heaven!

These may also be difficult days for the New Testament local church, but God’s people must

have courage. We cannot give up! When faced with overwhelming difficulties, we must hold to courage as our prevailing attitude, our conviction, and our response to whatever obstacles hinder our course.

Regrettably, we live in a day when people give in far too easily to the difficulties they face. Many abandon their marriages, their families, their churches, their health, their goals, and their jobs in times of trial. We should seek to live like the generation that was before mine. My parents' generation was the era that faced the Great Depression, yet the overwhelming majority did not quit. They could not quit for the sake of their children and grandchildren and the future that their families would one day inherit. My parents' generation truly possessed courage, as did others before them.

Life is filled with trials and disappointing moments. God's people must ask themselves—**how are we going to handle them?**

I'm amazed at the courage and resilience of the North Valley Baptist Church. For years, our church family and friends parked several blocks away and walked to church because we did not have enough parking. With only thirty-eight parking stalls, many people said the North Valley Baptist Church would not survive. Instead, we thrived!

We are now enjoying our present 3,000 seat auditorium because so many people had courage in our early years, to sacrifice and to give. Recently, the

C O U R A G E

one-millionth rider came on our buses—yet another example of courage to keep knocking on doors week after week and serving the people of our community. For decades, courage has prompted NVBC to support over two hundred missionaries; it has also enabled us to establish Golden State Baptist College, a Bible college with the purpose of training men and women for the Lord’s work. In the face of doubt and uncertainty, God’s people have possessed courage and trusted in Him.

Even our youth must learn courage. Many young people attend Bible colleges and learn to face adversity through experience—which may include the loss of a job, difficulty in life, or even failure. Courage is needed to strengthen them for the fight against these hardships, as well as the ones that lie ahead.

Regardless of what is on the horizon, we must remember that our Lord “*will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.*” As the songwriter penned, “God can do anything but fail!”

“For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.”

—II TIMOTHY 1:7

There is nothing wrong with being afraid; the problem arises when you allow fear to govern and overcome your life. Fear then, is the absence of faith.

You are either filled with faith, or you are filled with fear. If you are filled with fear, you must get on your knees before God and ask Him to increase your faith. You will never see spiritual, physical, or financial victory or any kind of true success in your life until you learn to walk by faith.

Perhaps you feel that a life of faith and victory cannot be yours and, as a consequence, you are of no value to God. Maybe you wonder if God can even use your life for His work. Remember, “God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty.” Our Lord is looking for people like Gideon who was scared to stand against the great Midianite army and for someone like Moses who was afraid to stand before Pharaoh. In both instances, God sent men to stand with them and enable them.

Similarly, the Lord sends godly ladies into the lives of godly men to help them and give them courage. In over thirty years of marriage, there have been times when I have had no courage. Yet, my wife must have known those times because she breathed courage into me when I had none. Not only does my wife give me courage, but North Valley Baptist Church also gives me courage. Service after service, these dear people breathe courage into me.

You may ask, “How can I possess courage in my life?”

Believe In a Cause Greater Than Yourself

The young people in our youth groups across this nation are a worthy cause, and we must believe that their generation will be the most godly, separated generation this country has ever known. Don't ever give up on our youth! Don't ever give up on your children! Young people possess a great deal of potential. I understand that some may stray, but don't discredit God's power because of that.

If you want courage, you have to believe in something that's bigger than you. What is your cause? Where are you focusing your energy to make a difference?

Remember Past Victories

When I was growing up, God gave our church an apricot orchard, and I watched my pastor lead our church through project after project to build and develop that property. When I was in Bible college, I watched our president continually build to enlarge our campus. Through the years, I have looked back and thought if God could do that for my pastor and my college president, I believe He can do the same for us today and in the future.

This does not mean that we disregard lessons learned from past defeats, but do not allow those disappointments to diminish your courage to pursue