



## Courage To Stand

During an intense battle in my life, courage certainly became a word I learned to live with on intimate terms. It often took hourly draws from the well of courage for me to live in the skirmishes. I reported to my Commander often for my orders—in fact—I could be found running into the arms of my Heavenly Daddy to hide just as often.

As testing continued, I came to realize people are in severe battles in all kinds of arenas. I just didn't see it because of the fierceness of my own war. We need to encourage one another constantly. Plainly—we need all the help we can get!

We all have assigned battles to us. Our Commander is looking for certain things to be developed in us. He wants to see His character reflected.

It matters what is our attitude to those around us. Will we be kind to them? What if they are rude to us or ruin our reputation? There is a risk to take in forgiving them. It takes courage.

What about stepping outside our comfort zone? Living in a box is definitely easier. It takes courage to take the step that may change our lives or those around us.

How do we handle the surprises thrown at us as life takes a different bend in the road than we expected? And it doesn't look like we can recover?

And what about faith? Sometimes it takes courage just to believe that God will move in and rescue us from the enemies within or around us.

Yet, if our resolve is that we will stand—then our Commander will be sure to see to it that we have all we need to stand.

So, as our Commander urges us, let's collect our armor: the helmet of salvation, the breastplate of righteousness, the belt of truth, the shoes of good news, the shield of faith and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. Put it all on. Face the enemy. We cannot lose.

He will not fail us. So let's gather our courage to stand.

We can, you know.

“Therefore, take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, TO STAND” Ephesians 6:13. NKJV