

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



Topic: Be strong and courageous

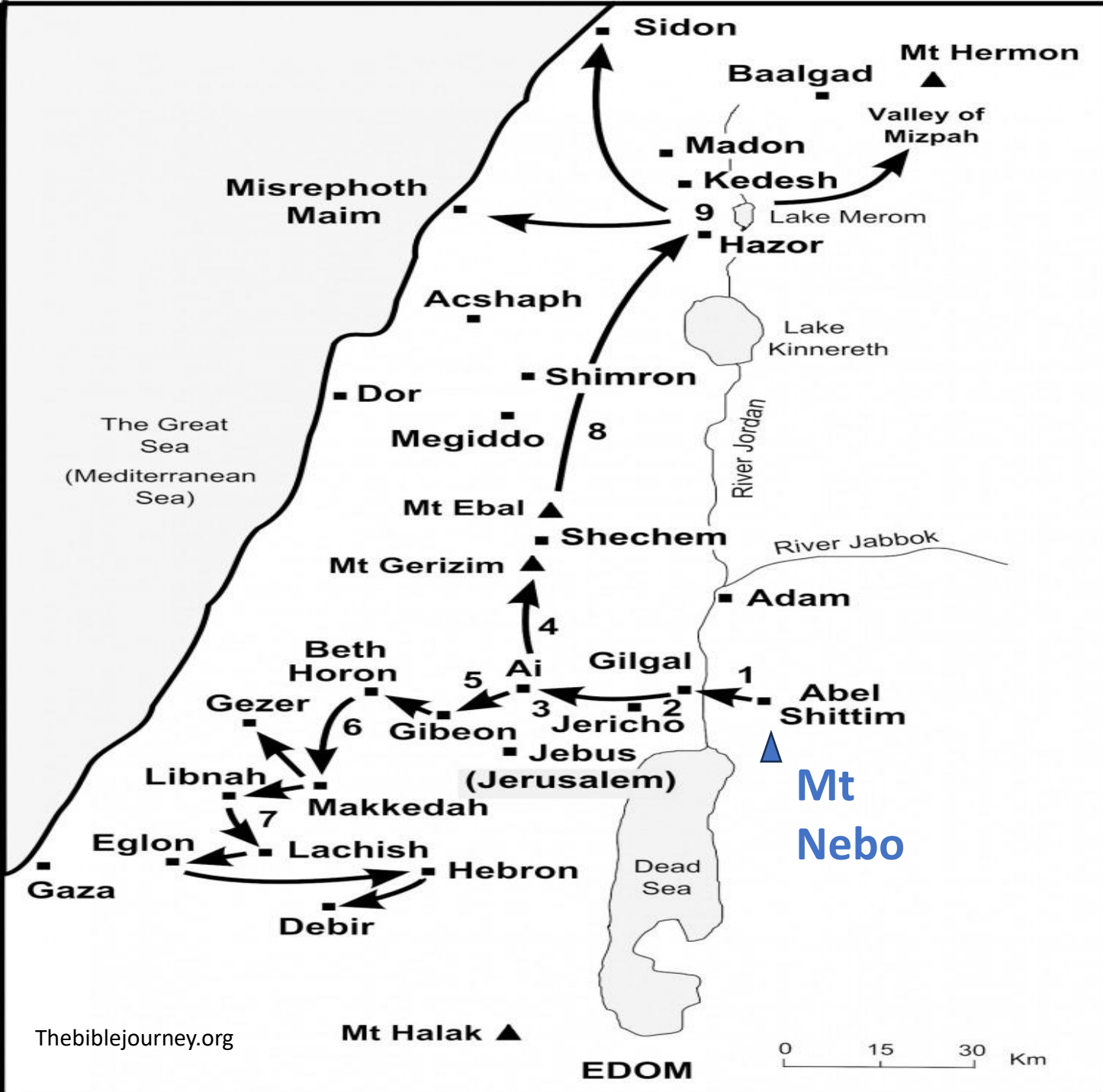
Text: Deut 31

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Watch video:

https://www.youtube.com/shorts/_ATQ3DCo4lg

How did the cat have the strength and courage?



1) Background: Moses led the the Israelites out of Egypt towards Canaan. They were camped at Abel Shittim.

1) It was approx. 1407BC.

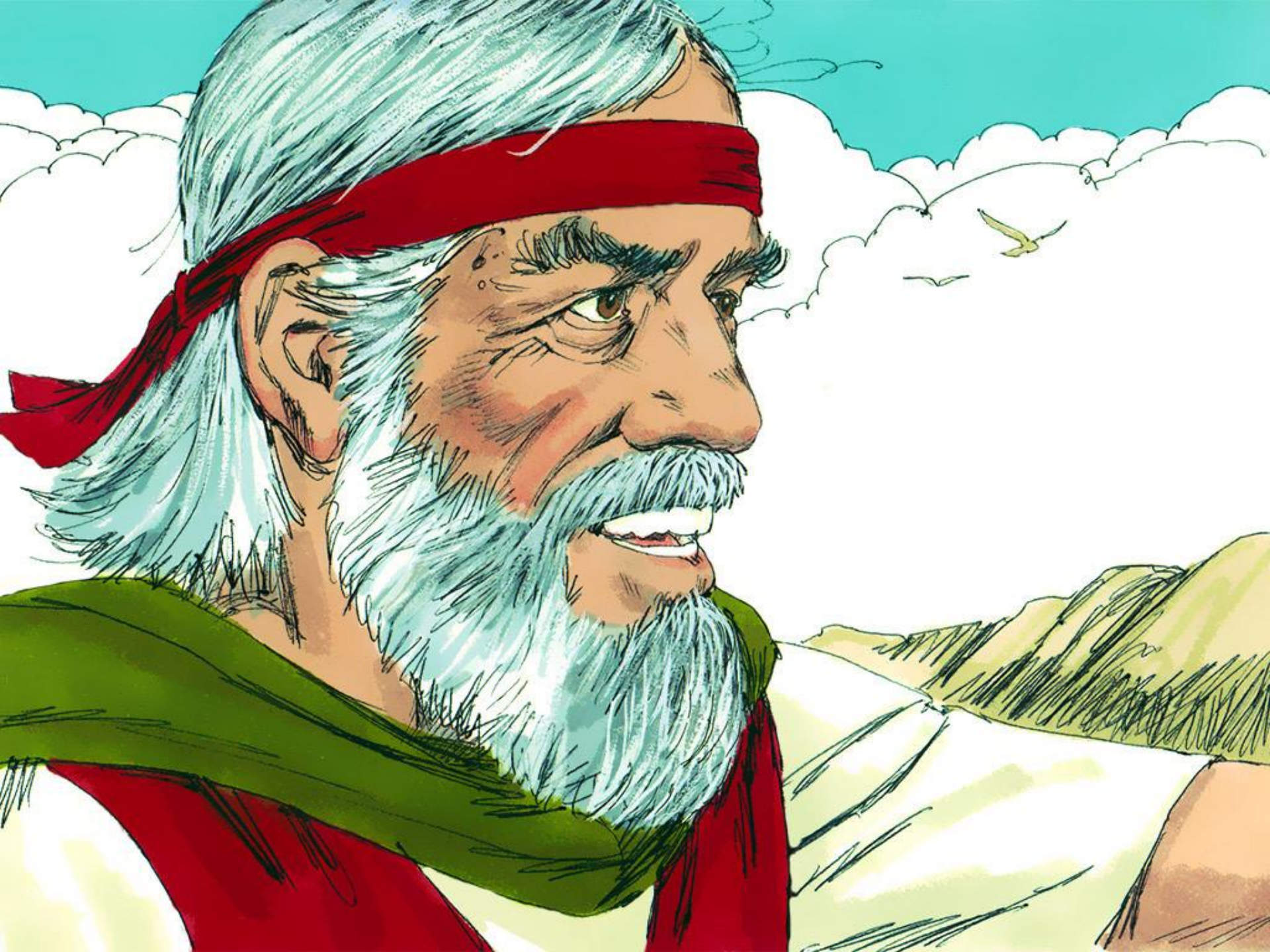
(3) Moses appointed Joshua to succeed him. (Deut. 31:7).

(4) After appointing Joshua as the new leader, Moses went up to Mt Nebo.



Moses dies and Joshua becomes leader

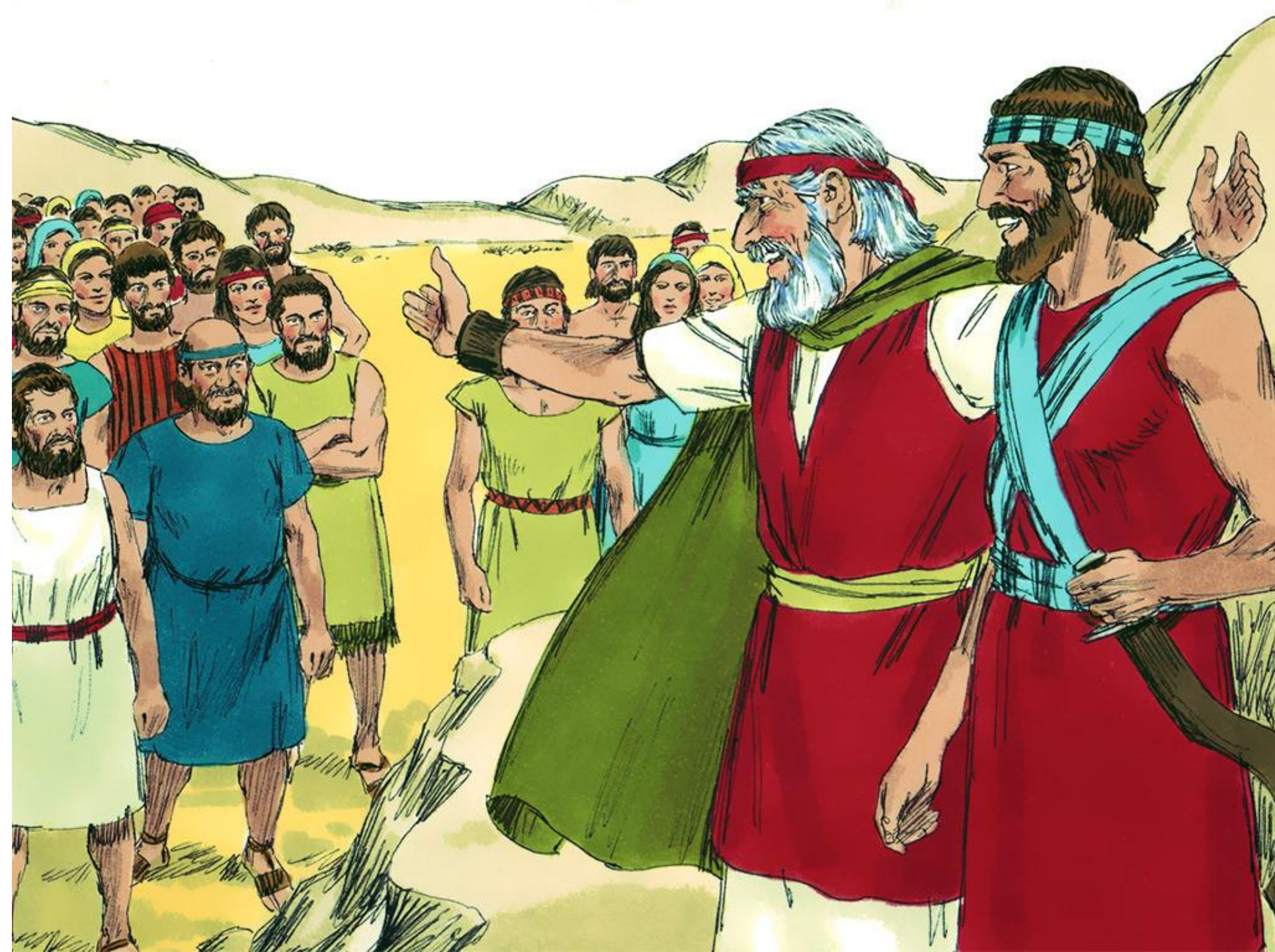
Deuteronomy 31-34, Joshua 1:1-9



Moses addressed the people. 'I am now 120 years old and unable to lead you. God has told me I will not cross the River Jordan and enter the Promised Land.
Deut 31:1,2



‘But the Lord will lead you to overcome the nations living in the Promised Land. Be strong! Be courageous! Do not be afraid! For the Lord your God will be with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.’
Deut 31:3-6



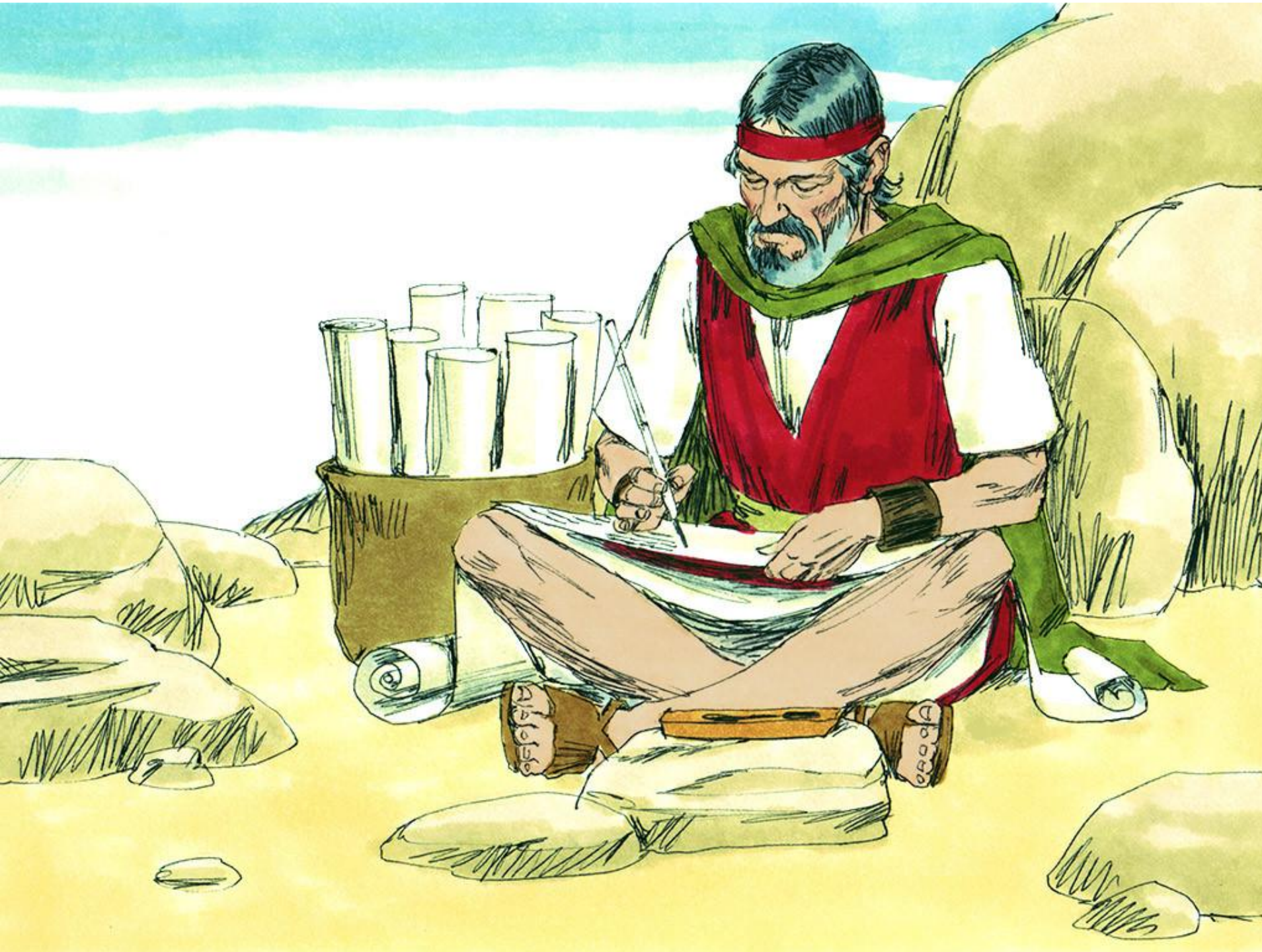
Moses then summoned Joshua and in front of everyone said, 'Be strong! Be courageous! Deut 31:7



'For you will lead
these people
into the
Promised Land.
Deut 31:7



Don't be afraid,
for the Lord will
be with you and
go before you.
He will never
leave you or
forsake you.'
Deut 31:6

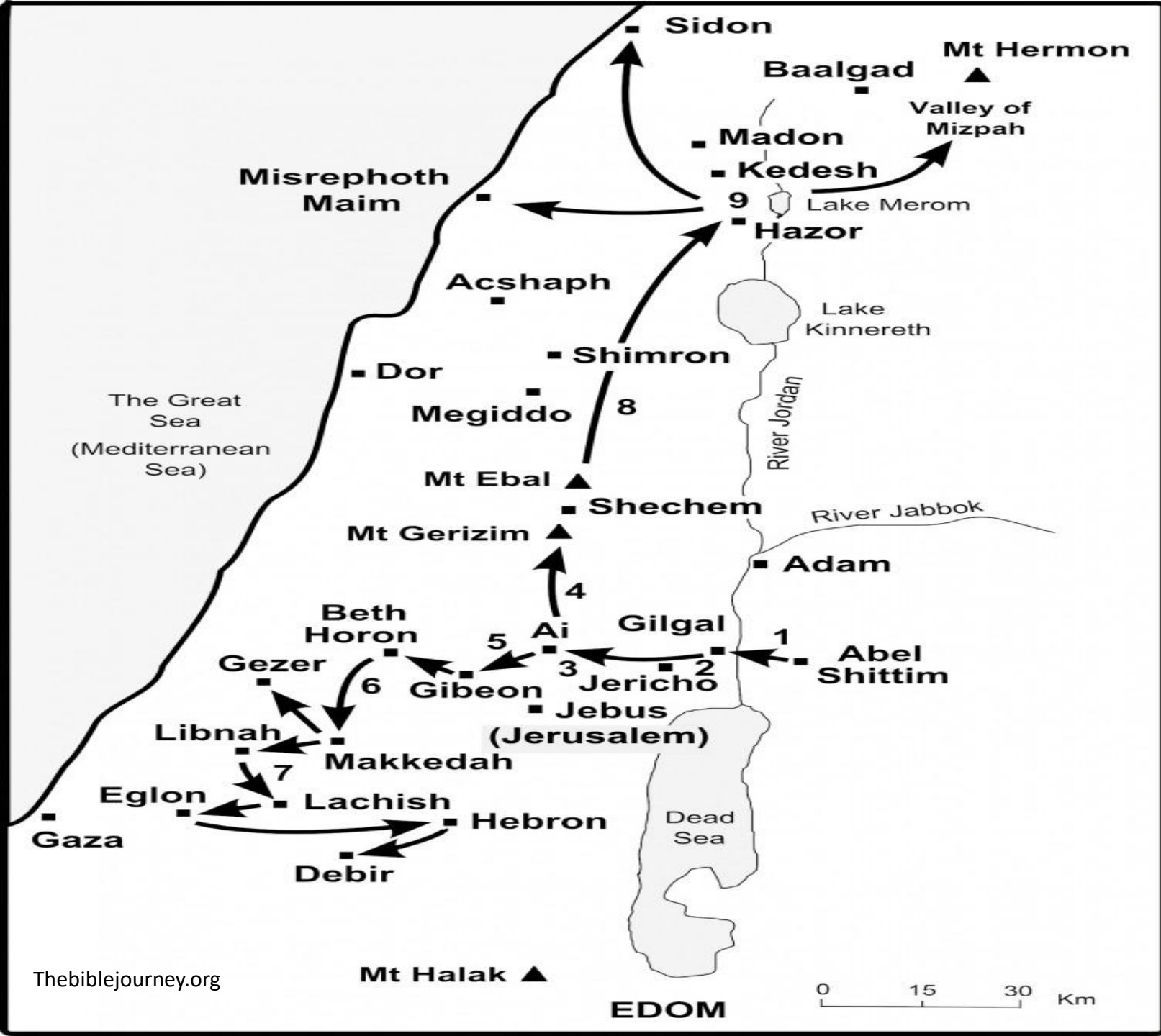


Moses then wrote out the laws he had given the people and gave them to the priests to look after. He told them to read them to everyone every seven years when they gathered at the festival of tabernacles.
Deut 31:9-11



Moses called everyone together to hear God's laws read aloud. He urged them to do what God wanted and obey Him with reverence.

Deut 31: 12-13



Joshua and the Israelites were urged to be strong and courageous because they have to do battle in Canaan

- Being strong and courageous means facing life's challenges with resilience and bravery, even when you are afraid.
- It involves standing up for your beliefs, persevering through obstacles, and having the mental fortitude to stand firm in difficult circumstances.



Strength

Provides power and stability



Courage

Enables action despite fear

(2) Spiritual Lessons

a) Strong and courageous

(i) Just as the Lord instructed the Israelites to be strong and courageous, we as children of God must also be strong and courageous.

(ii) God will require the Israelites to go through much trouble in doing battle with the Canaanites in the Promised Land.

God did not give them the Promised Land on a 'silver plate'. Instead they have to fight for it. But God will help them and give them victory.

https://www.google.com/imgres?q=trust%20god%20in%20the%20storm%20bible%20verse&imgurl=https%3A%2F%2Fdrnichellebengtson.com%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2017%2F06%2FTrusting-God-in-the-storm.jpg&imgrefurl=https%3A%2F%2Fdrnichellebengtson.com%2Fin-the-storm%2F&docid=1xAjq00j0cvJUM&tbnid=VX0-o2CewF_KHM&vet=12ahUKEwiY2Kj8tqqHAXULzjgGHWI3CIEQM3oECBYQAA..i&w=1080&h=567&hcb=2&ved=2ahUKEwiY2Kj8tqqHAXULzjgGHWI3CIEQM3oECBYQAA

TRUSTING GOD

In the

Storm



(iii) Similarly, as believers, God will lead us through many battles (troubles and difficulties) in our lives.

(iv) Remember that God will never leave you or forsake you.

In this way, we grow our faith in God.

(b) Be strong and courageous when we face trials and difficulties, such as:

i) Sickness and ill-health

ii) Relationship troubles with:

- Spouse
- Children
- Colleagues
- Church
- Friends etc.

(iii) Financial issues etc.

(e) Trials and difficulties

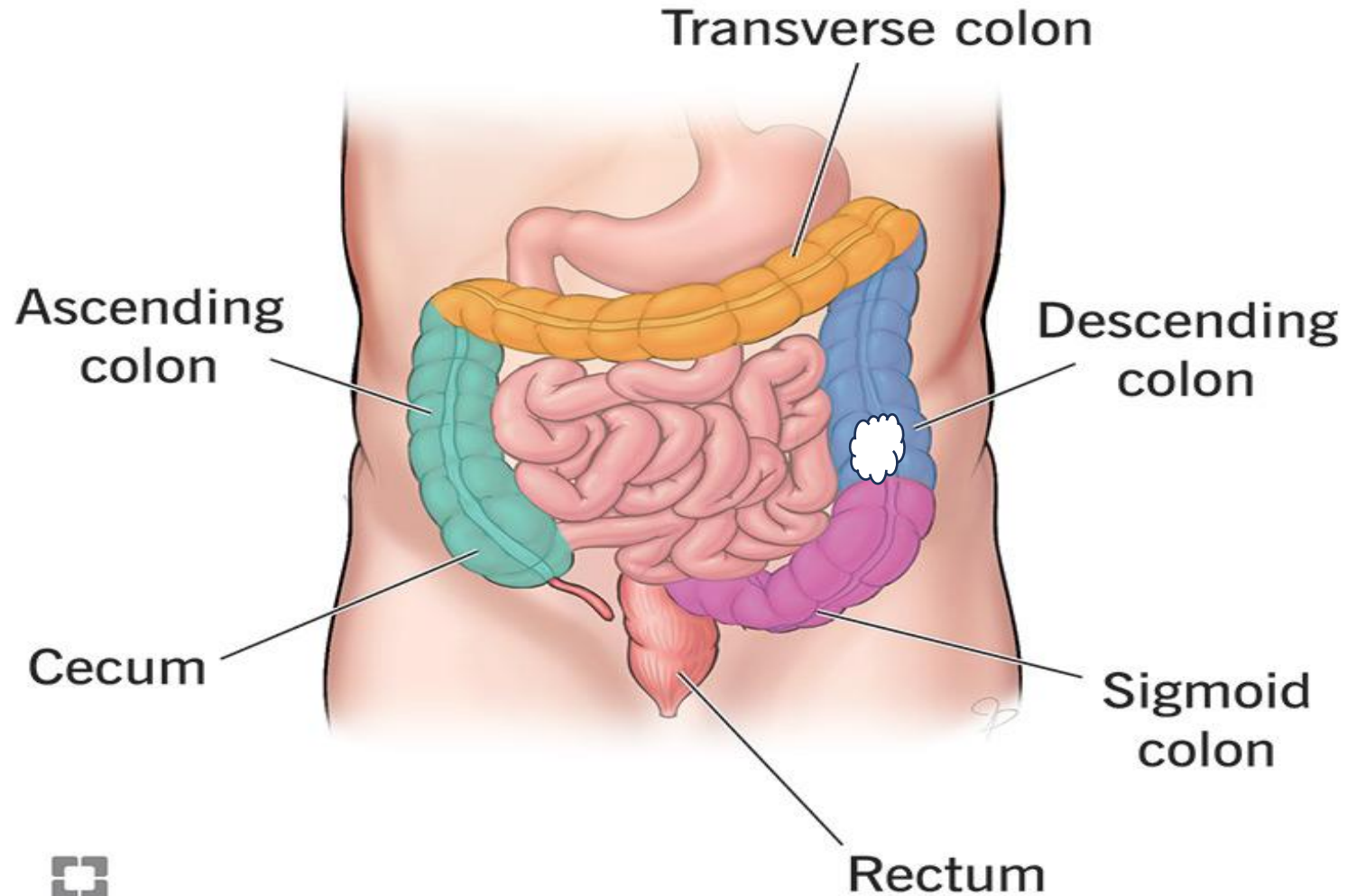
i) Why did Joshua and the Israelites had to face trials and difficulties facing the Canaanites?

Ans: Because they had to learn to trust God when facing troubles in their battle. It was through trials and difficulties that the Israelites would trust God to deliver them.

(ii) In the same way, as believers, we face many troubles, because God wants us to trust Him facing the troubles.

(iii) Sharing.

Large intestine & colon



Practical ways to be strong and courageous

- To be strong and courageous as a Christian is a calling to live by faith, not by human might, but by relying on God's presence, promises, and the support of a Christian community.
- Practical ways to cultivate this strength and courage include
- **Immerse Yourself in God's Word Daily:** Read, study, and meditate on Scripture consistently.
- God's word is the primary source of courage and strength, providing guidance and a framework for all thoughts and actions.

Practical ways to be strong and courageous

- **Pray Regularly and Intentionally:** Integrate prayer into your daily life, not just as a one-time event, but as a continuous dialogue with God.
- Pray for courage to face challenges, for wisdom in decision-making, and to give your anxieties and worries to Him.
- **Acknowledge God's Constant Presence:** Remind yourself frequently of the promise in Joshua 1:9, "Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go".
- This assurance is a powerful antidote to fear and a source of peace amidst uncertainty.

Practical ways to be strong and courageous

- **Memorize Key Scriptures:** Commit verses about strength and courage (e.g., Isaiah 41:10, Philippians 4:13, 2 Timothy 1:7) to memory so the Holy Spirit can bring them to mind when you face difficult situations.

Practical ways to be strong and courageous

- **Face Your Fears with Faith:** Courage is not the absence of fear, but the decision to act despite having fear, trusting in God's power.
- Start by taking small steps outside your comfort zone to build confidence and resilience.
- **Focus on Your Strengths, Not Weaknesses:** Recognize that God can multiply your little strength, however inadequate it may seem.
- Your weakness can be the very thing that highlights God's power.

Practical ways to be strong and courageous

- **Maintain a Positive and Hopeful Outlook:** Choose to believe that God is working all things for your good, even in setbacks.
- A positive attitude and hope in God's plan can help you avoid negativity and despair.
- **Practice Perseverance:** View trials and difficulties as opportunities for growth and character refinement.
- Remaining steadfast in your faith, even when the path is difficult, builds endurance and spiritual maturity.

Practical ways to be strong and courageous

- **Build Intentional, Supportive Relationships:** Surround yourself with a community of believers who can offer encouragement, accountability, and prayer.
- Share your struggles and stories of God's faithfulness to uplift each other.
- **Seek Wise Counsel:** Do not try to navigate challenges alone.
- Seek guidance from mature, wise believers, mentors, or spiritual advisors when making important decisions.

Practical ways to be strong and courageous

- **Be Obedient to God's Calling:** Step out in faith and obedience to what you believe God is calling you to do, even if it seems risky.
- Trust that God will equip you for the task.
- **Take Care of Your Physical Health:** The Bible indicates that physical training has value (1 Timothy 4:8).
- Exercise and proper self-care can enhance your energy, focus, and overall resilience, allowing you to be strong in all aspects of life.

Reflection: Are you applying all the practical ways to be strong and courageous?