PSALM 116:1-2 (NIV)

I love the Lord, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy.
Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live.





Though most of our fights don't end...
most people don't build their character for enduring courage.



2 Peter 1:5-6
"make every effort to add to your faith virtue,
and to virtue knowledge, and to knowledge
self-control, and to self-control
perseverance, and to perseverance,
godliness..."

Psalm 11

"In the LORD I take refuge...for the LORD is righteous, he loves justice; the upright will see his face."

Fear can only be tamed by what is more prized than safety.

Habakkuk 2:4 "The upright will live by faith."
(Quoted in: Rom 1:17, Gal 3:11, Heb 10:38)

When we feel afraid, there are always two implicit questions:

Are we going to face cowardice and find courage?

Where is persevering courage to be found?



No good, truthful and beautiful life can avoid conflict in this world.

Our battles are:

Costly and Constant

Two decisions we all have to make (constantly):

- 1. Am I going to reject the invitation of cowardice?
- 2. Am I going to stand on the foundations of courage?







1. Reject the invitation to cowardice



2. Stand on the foundations of courage



The first and last line summarize the Psalm and therefore the foundation of courag

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PSALM 116:1-2 (NIV)

- I love the Lord, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy.
- 2 Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live.



When I Feel Afraid Psalm 11

Feel Better

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Where is persevering courage to be found?



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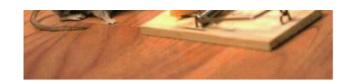


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Psalm 11





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T:T/, Gal 3:TT' Heb Tn:38)



1. Reject the invitation to cowardice





How could you do this to me?

Psalm 11:1b "How can you say to me, 'flee..'"



Cowardice always has reasons to excuse itself.



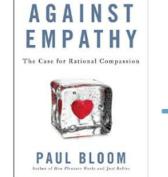


"The Treason of Empathy"

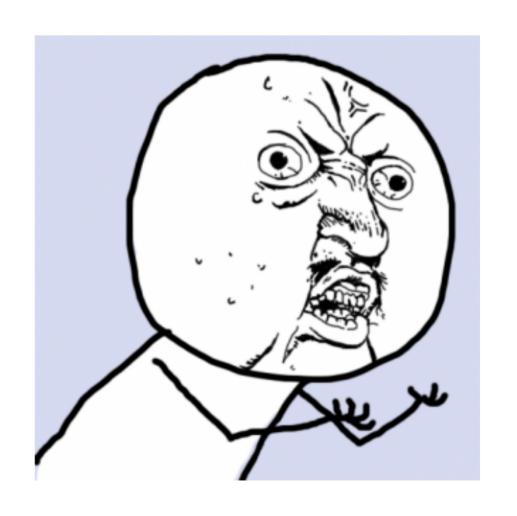
Empathy narrows your vision and blinds you to future consequences. Empathy only lets you love who is in your mind's eye at this moment - and no one elses.

It also is the excuse we use to lose our nerve in supporting the good, and in taking the easy way out of loving people.

Psalm 11



Ex. Redeem India



How could you do this to me?

Psalm 11:1b
"How can you say to me, 'flee..'"

vs 3
When the foundations are destroyed...

Vs 4
The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD is on his heavenly throne.



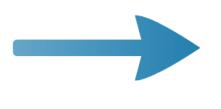
2. Stand on the foundations of courage

3 Foundations of Faith-filled Courage



How do you find the foundation of courage?

vs 3 When the foundations are destroyed...



vs 4
The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD is on his heavenly throne.

Moses Isaiah
Elijah Elisha Jeremiah
Obed Obadiah
Nehemiah
Justin Martyr Athanasius
Luther Bonhoeffer
Lincoln MLK

All of our heroes found it simple, but not easy

Not a simplistic answer for moral hardship

Matthew 10:16-17

I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves. "Be on your guard against men; Lincoln MLK

All of our heroes found it simple, but not easy

3 Foundations of Faith-filled Courage

"the Lord is on his throne"

"The LORD examines the righteous" "The upright will see his face"

The first and last line summarize the Psalm and therefore the foundation of courage

In the LORD I take refuge. the upright will see his face. and therefore the foundation

In the LORD I take refuge. the upright will see his face.

