



Dear Parents and Carers,

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus is sending out his disciples to heal and to preach the good news. Even if they are met with hostility and persecution, they must be true to Jesus.

Jesus himself was fearless in proclaiming truth and exposing falsehood. Now his disciples must courageously do the same.

Most of us require courage at some time in our lives, so it's good and helpful to nurture courage in our children.

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2023

As our children mature, it's essential for them to be brave and have the courage to say 'no' when necessary, even if it means going against the crowd or speaking up for truth.

Enjoy a special time together this evening, hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **COURAGE**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



To see this week's Parish Version of The Wednesday Word: [wednesdayword.org](http://wednesdayword.org) - Parents' Pages - Lectio Divina with Fr Henry.

**THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH**  
Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2023



Jesus instructed the twelve as follows: "Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops. Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; think more about God who has power over both body and soul. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows. So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven.

*Adapted from Matthew 10:26-33*

The 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A

You are warmly invited to learn more about the Gospel through your local parish church.

"Let us learn to face moments of difficulty with courage, certain that Jesus never fails to give his support." Pope Francis

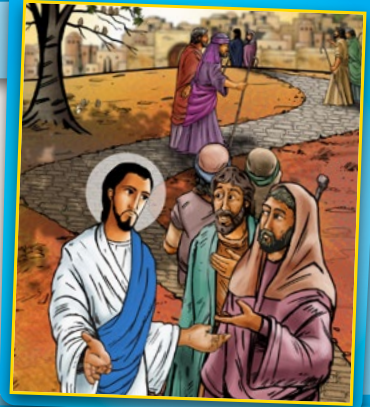


It takes courage to stand up for the truth. This Gospel reminds us not to be afraid to speak out for what is right and true. Courage helps us to do many great things: to resist temptations, to overcome obstacles and to face our fears when we have followed what is good.



# 1 Our Special Time Together

Enjoy reading the Gospel overleaf (or below for younger children)



Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be afraid. What is now hidden will be made known. What you have heard said in whispers, I want you to tell out loud to everyone. And do not be afraid of people; they cannot harm your soul. Think more about God who has power over both body and soul. Aren't two sparrows cheap to buy – sold only for a penny? Yet not one sparrow falls to the ground without your Father knowing about it. So do not be afraid. You are worth much more than lots of sparrows. If anyone speaks up for me in front of other people, then I will speak up for that person in front of my Father in heaven."

**Why did the disciples need courage?** Which word or words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? See the picture opposite. What does it make you think about?

# 2 Wednesday's Word is ...

## COURAGE



# 3 Loving God & Each Other

"To have courage for whatever comes in life – everything lies in that." *St Teresa of Avila*

Ask your child what the word 'courage' means to them. When was the last time they needed courage? Have they ever needed the courage to: go somewhere new or try something new; tell the truth; admit a mistake; stand up for someone; speak up for something that was right; resist peer pressure or go against the crowd and say that something was wrong? Is there anything they are afraid of right now? Who do they know who has shown or shows 'courage'?

"In joining yourself to God's will, you take on new life and gather great courage." *St Paul of the Cross*

The word 'courage' comes from the Latin word for 'heart' and it basically means that you are brave. Courage is a gift of the Holy Spirit – it makes us strong. Putting our faith in Jesus and his teachings gives us the courage to do the right thing. How can we have more courage? Perhaps we can: develop our friendship with God through prayer; ask God for more courage; put our faith in Jesus and his teachings; support and encourage each other always to do what we know to be right – even if we are afraid.

Dear Lord Jesus, please give us the **courage** always to do and say what is right and help us to remember that we can always put our faith in you. Amen.

## Gospel Gallery

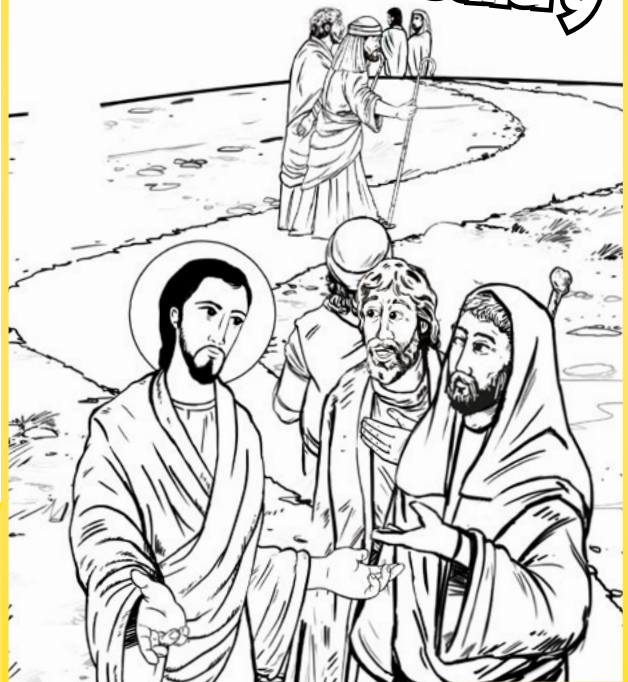
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### WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER **ACROSS** OR **DOWN**

- NOT AFRAID
- TELL EVERYONE
- COURAGE SPEAK
- FATHER HEAVEN

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS **BACKWARDS** OR **DIAGONALLY**



Search for at least three differences between this picture and the colour one. Then draw them in before colouring.

Cross out the letters **k v z** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.  
**spavrrzowsk kafvrazid zakrev movkrez**

So do not be \_\_\_\_\_. You \_\_\_\_\_ worth much \_\_\_\_\_ than lots of \_\_\_\_\_.

When we stay close to Jesus, we will always have the courage to do the right thing. We are all precious to God. Let Jesus' words in this Sunday's Gospel fill us with courage to live by his teaching.

Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...

.....  
 .....

