

## Courage/Love & Justice

Compiled by Kirk Irwin

### I. Chapter 3, Finding Common Ground, by Tim Downs

#### Quote on Courage:

"We thrill to stories of the moral courage of others, and we repeat these stories to one another to strengthen our own resolve. ...Telemachus...Martin Luther...Thomas More...Jan Hus...Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Church history is one long tutorial in the virtue of moral courage. A quick survey of Christian children's literature shows that moral courage is one of the qualities we most want to cultivate in the next generation. Moses confronting Pharaoh, David facing up to Goliath, and Daniel & Company facing off with the entire Babylonian Empire. You're not likely to find an Illustrated Golden Classic featuring the Apostle Paul 'becoming all things to all men, that he might by all means win some.'" Downs, page 37

#### Quotes on Love & Justice:

"Em Griffin wrote a book entitled *The Mind Changer: The Art of Christian Persuasion*. He argued that whenever a Christian attempts to persuade an unbeliever, the Christian has two requirements: the requirement of love and the requirement of justice." Downs, p. 38

#### Question:

- What do you think the requirement of love entails here? The requirement of justice?

#### Quotes continued

"...and ethical Christian persuader must always seek to balance the requirements of love and justice. In practice, love and justice sometimes seem to represent conflicting interests. In reality, love and justice are not competing voices, like a couple of fiercely independent lobbyists, each looking out only for his own interests. They are more like two ambassadors who both represent the kingdom of God, each reflecting and emphasizing a different part of their Lord's will." Downs, p. 38-39

#### Questions continued:

- What does it look like when love is too prevalent in my interactions with people? Is it even possible to show too much love?
- What does it look like when justice is too prevalent in my interactions with people? Is it even possible to show too much justice?
- As artists how do you balance love and justice in your creative expression?

#### Scripture:

- John 16:12-13