

# "ALWAYS ON YOUR LIPS"

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Pastor Ken Ritz \* January 7, 2018 \* New Life Vineyard

*Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them. Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you. Do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. Keep this book of the law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. Have I not commanded you be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:6-9*

## 1. God's presence is guaranteed but his promises are

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**God tells Joshua two things:**

- Don't be afraid,
- Don't be discouraged.

**God has given you a destiny:**

- **The bigger the destiny, the bigger the enemies.**

**What promise are you looking at from God, that you're not living in?**

- **The biggest reasons are usually fear and discouragement.**

*But the men who had gone up with him said, "We can't attack those people; they are stronger than we are." And they spread among the Israelites a bad report about the land they had explored.*

*They said, "The land we explored devours those living in it. All the people we saw there are of great size. Numbers 13:31-32*

*...and said to the entire Israelite assembly, "The land we passed through and explored is exceedingly good. If the Lord is pleased with us, he will lead us into that land, a land flowing with milk and*

*honey, and will give it to us. Only do not rebel against the Lord. And do not be afraid of the people of the land, because we will devour them. Their protection is gone, but the Lord is with us. Do not be afraid of them." Numbers 14:7*

**God is with you in this moment... do you really believe it?**

*Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the presence of all Israel, "Be strong and courageous, for you must go with this people into the land that the Lord swore to their ancestors to give them, and you must divide it among them as their inheritance. The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged." Deuteronomy 31:7-8*

*Keep this book of the law always on your lips. Joshua 1:8*

**Discouragement is a decision that I make.**

*Our problem is that we spend too much time listening to ourselves and not enough time talking to ourselves.*

Dr. Martin Lloyd Jones

*Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God. Psalm 42:5*

**I need to tell myself the truth, instead of just listening to how I happen to feel.**

**Christ is in me, I am enough.**

*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. John 14:27*