

Don't You Worry About What People Think?

(Finding the courage to break with the herd)
(SERIES: Leave No Doubt; 06 of 06)
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“the gateway to life is very narrow and the road is difficult, and only a few ever find it.” (Matt 7: NLT)

The Art of Courageous Dissent

You must believe you matter.

“And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him, and said unto him, **The LORD is with thee, thou mighty man of valour.** And Gideon said unto him, Oh my Lord, if the LORD be with us, why then is all this befallen us? and where be all his miracles which our fathers told us of, saying, Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt? but now the LORD hath forsaken us, and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites. And the LORD looked upon him, and said, Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee? . . .” (Judg 6 KJV)

You must stop listening to your critics.

“Woe unto you that are full! for ye shall hunger. Woe unto you that laugh now! for ye shall mourn and weep. Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets. But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you,” (Luke 6:25-27 KJV)

You must discover your passion.

You must define success.

“For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and **then he shall reward every man according to his works.**” (Matthew 16:25-27 KJV)

You must develop your skills.

“In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly.” (‘NLT)

You must be fully present.

“There is hope only for the living. As they say, “It’s better to be a live dog than a dead lion!”” (Ecclesiastes 9:4 NLT)

You must find your voice.

You must navigate change.

You must run your race.

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” (Heb 12:1-2 NIV)

You must guard your heart.

“Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.” (Pro 4:23 NIV)