

First Baptist Student Ministry - Wednesday, February 20, 2019

**RightNow Media Video** = "Session 1: BOLD Faith" (17:27)  
<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/257961?episode=1>

**(Title pic)** It's time to get bold, friends! Welcome to BOLD, our new Wednesday night message series looking at BOLD Faith, BOLD Words, BOLD Truth, and BOLD Prayer.

**(Rain flood pic)** One summer morning as Ray Blankenship was preparing his breakfast, he gazed out the window, and saw a small girl being swept along in the rain-flooded drainage ditch beside his Andover, Ohio, home. Blankenship knew that farther downstream, the ditch disappeared with a roar underneath a road and then emptied into the main culvert. Ray dashed out the door and raced along the ditch, trying to get ahead of the foundering child. Then he hurled himself into the deep, churning water. Blankenship surfaced and was able to grab the child's arm. They tumbled end over end. Within about three feet of the yawning culvert, Ray's free hand felt something--possibly a rock--protruding from one bank. He clung desperately, but the tremendous force of the water tried to tear him and the child away. "If I can just hang on until help comes," he thought. He did better than that. By the time fire-department rescuers arrived, Blankenship had pulled the girl to safety. Both were treated for shock. On April 12, 1989, Ray Blankenship was awarded the Coast Guard's Silver Lifesaving Medal. The award is fitting, for this selfless person was at even greater risk to himself than most people knew. Ray Blankenship can't swim. (Paul Harvey, Los Angeles Times Syndicate)

### **BOLD Faith In This World**

**(Put on cape)** We are all about heroes, even superheroes today! Why do you think young men & women have the desire to be bold deep down inside them? Where does that desire come from? **(Students share)**

Take Cole (in the first video) for example... living the "fast" life, racing cars... we all have something that gives us that adrenaline boost (sports, activities, relationships). Think about that thing in your life!

Now think about what is your biggest fear that keeps you from being bold? **What are some fears that stop teens from being bold?** **(Students share)**

What did Cole say fuels him each day? **(Students share)** = God's Word!

If only we read God's Word like our lives depended on it!!

Take Kenlen's attitude toward God for example. Remember how he said he viewed God? = cold and bitter toward God. Been there?

### **BOLD Faith In The Bible**

**Joshua 1:1-9** = "After the death of Moses the Lord's servant, the Lord spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' assistant. He said, 2 "Moses my servant is dead. Therefore, the time has come for you to lead these people, the Israelites, across the Jordan River into the land I am giving them. 3 I promise you what I promised Moses: 'Wherever you set foot, you will be on land I have given you— 4 from the Negev wilderness in the south to the Lebanon mountains in the north, from the Euphrates River in the east to the Mediterranean Sea in the west, including all the land of the Hittites.' 5 No one will be able to stand against you as long as you live. For I will be with you as I was with Moses. I will not fail you or abandon you. 6 "Be strong and courageous, for you are the one who will lead these people to possess all the land I swore to their ancestors I would give them. 7 Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do. 8 Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do. 9 This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." (NLT)

Joshua had big shoes to fill. He was about to step into the role of leading the nation of Israel, right after Moses had led the people for over 40 years. Joshua's predecessor, Moses, had led the Israelites out of Egypt, through the parted Red Sea, through the wilderness. Basically, Joshua was replacing the most epic leader Israel had ever known.

How do you think following a leader like Moses would affect Joshua's confidence level? **(Students share)** (It could have intimidated him, made him afraid, made him feel inadequate, made him fear that the people wouldn't follow him.)

**What does God promise Joshua in verses 3-5?** **(Students share)** (Every place the sole of his foot touches, God has given to Israel. No man will be able to

stand before Joshua all the days of his life. As God was with Moses, so He will be with Joshua. God won't leave or forsake Joshua.)

**What instructions are given about the law in verse 8?** (Student share) (The Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night.)

What does it mean to meditate on God's Word day and night? How do we put that into practice today? (Students give examples) (Scripture should fill our thoughts and our hearts. We should read it, memorize it, study it, talk about it.)

### **BOLD Faith In Your Life**

If you want BOLD Faith, you need:

1. To stay in God's Word
2. To trust God no matter what
3. To surround yourself with godly examples (mentors)

**Need a prayer mentor? Sign up tonight! Text 256-744-3355.**

- God has been stirring this idea in my heart for 3 years! I want to do something about it. Shared about it last Sunday morning.
- Students need mentors (godly adults around their lives)... are you willing to connect with a prayer mentor? This adult pray for you regularly, contact you occasionally, and love you consistently.
- Take out your phone, text me = "Mentor"
- Examples? Pat Thompson & Allison Carroll, etc.

I want to equip you to be BOLD in your faith. Have courage!

**(Gorilla Zoo pic)** A man was looking for a job and he noticed that there was an opening at the local zoo. He inquired about the job and discovered that the zoo had a very unusual position that they wanted to fill. Apparently their gorilla had died, and until they could get a new one, they needed someone to dress up in a gorilla suit and act like a gorilla for a few days. He was to just sit, eat and sleep. His identity would be kept a secret, of course. Thanks to a very fine gorilla suit, no one would be the wiser.

The zoo offered good pay for this job, so the man decided to do it. He tried on the suit and sure enough, he looked just like a gorilla. They led him to the cage; he took a position at the back of the cage and pretended to sleep. But after a while, he got tired of sitting, so he walked around a little bit, jumped up and down and tried a few gorilla noises. The people who were watching him seemed to really like that. When he would move or jump around, they would clap and cheer and throw him peanuts. And the man loved peanuts. So he jumped around some more and tried climbing a tree. That seemed to really get the crowd excited. They threw more peanuts. Playing to the crowd, he grabbed a vine and swung from one side of the cage to the other. The people loved it and threw more peanuts. Wow, this is great, he thought. He swung higher and

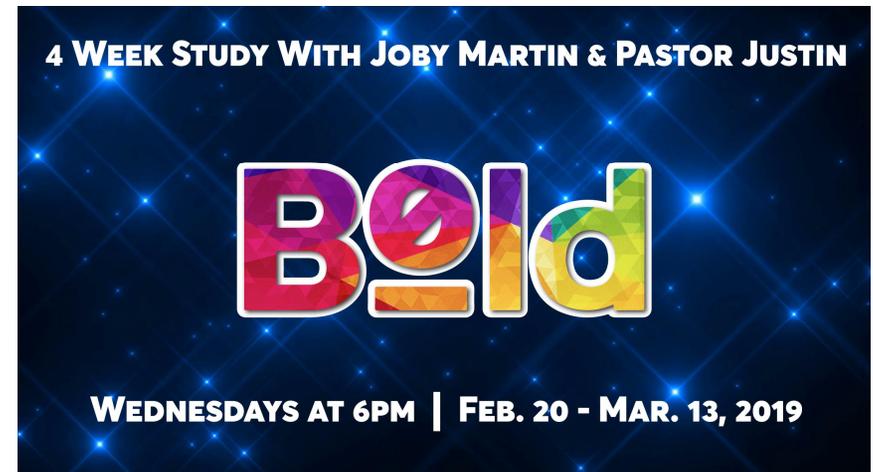
the crowd grew bigger. He continued to swing on the vine, getting higher and higher—and then all of a sudden, the vine broke! He swung up and out of the cage, landing in the lion's cage that was next door.

He panicked. There was a huge lion not twenty feet away, and it looked very hungry. So the man in the gorilla suit started jumping up and down, screaming and yelling, "Help, help! Get me out of here! I'm not really a gorilla! I'm a man in a gorilla suit! Heeelllp!"

The lion quickly pounced on the man, held him down and said, "Will you SHUT UP! You're going to get both of us fired!"

Sooner or later we all get found out. Sooner or later we all blow our cover. It is only a matter of time before who we are and what we really are becomes obvious to everyone. Any attempt to conceal our true nature will eventually be futile. In some stressful, off-guarded moment, who and what we are will surface. There is no point in pretending. Who we are and what we are, says the Bible, will sooner or later be declared from the rooftops.

**(Series title pic)** Small groups are changing tonight... we've shortened our service so you have more time to discuss and grow together in small groups. Please grab a clip board with the handout on your way to your small group and be open and honest as you share. **(Hold up handout)**



**Highlighted** = text or picture on screen. Study adapted from RightNow Media  
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