

INSPIRATIONAL THOUGHT—September 12, 2024—Duff Gorle

MORE COURAGEOUS THAN FEARFUL!

When we're facing something scary, uncertain or unknown, it's easy to allow fear, the desire for safety, or the love of comfort and calm to dominate our responses. We tend to avoid pain and suffering that could come from situations where our control is limited.

The truth is that God calls us into the unknown where the future is unclear and the outcomes unverifiable. In these times, we can be more courageous than fearful when we trust God and depend on God's Word to be a lamp to our path, and when we walk with friends who provide connection and joy!

The Old Testament prophet Isaiah said: *"Do not think like everyone else does. Don't be afraid..."* (Adapted by Duff). The Psalmist wrote: *"When I am afraid, I will trust in you"* (Ps. 56:3 NCV).

Negative thinking tends to be contagious. Our thoughts set the limits for our life. Remember that when God created you, He put in you everything you need to fulfill your destiny! Don't let the limited, negative thinking of others be the way you think!

Faith-thinking can power up our mind and keep us moving forward with confidence and courage! We can think thoughts like: *This is a great day! Whatever comes along is either caused or allowed by my loving God! God's strength is alive within me! Angels and the Holy Spirit are present with me! My true friends love me and are here for me! I'm looking forward to the future that God and I create together!*

Think courageous thoughts on purpose. Prayerfully let God remind you that all is well for the "I Am" is with you!

The scary, uncertain, unknown, challenging situation that God has led us into is much safer, healthier, and productive for our growth and wellbeing than the calm, clearly marked, easy road we might have preferred to choose for ourselves! We can embrace difficulty and challenge without fear. In so doing God's love helps us flourish with increased inner strength and resilience.

