

Courage Doesn't Always Roar

You don't have to bang your chest and roar to be courageous. Sometimes, it's that little voice inside you that says, "Tomorrow, I'll try again."

I don't know about you but there have been days in my life when all I wanted to do was stay in bed and suck my thumb. It took courage to get up and keep moving forward.

In 2012, when I transitioned from the classroom to the stage, it did not move forward according to the plan. The plan was to start teaching classes for Tigrent Learning; Robert Kiyosaki's Real Estate training classes.

I had many meeting with Mike as the director of curriculum. I was to start working for them in July. So, in April; when Lynn asked me if I was coming back to teach at Summit High School the following year, I asked my husband what to do. I asked, "Do we burn the boats?" We made the decision to do so and move ahead with Tigrent.

May 2012 found me cleaning out my desk for my new improved teaching career with a big smile on my face and apprehension on the faces of my peers. They wished me well but I could see they thought I was crazy. Who leaves a career in teaching after 17 years? I had two months in the summer off. I had every holiday off and two weeks at Christmas. Great benefits and good reliable pay.

I love teaching. It is what I was called to do. I just don't like grading papers. My career as a professional speaker for Tigrent would still be teaching but no grading. It was perfect!

Here is where the courage part comes in. In June 2012, they cut off all communication with me. No phone calls, no emails, NOTHING! I was freaking out. You should have heard the bully between my ears that month.

Laurence, my husband, and I sat down. What were we going to do? Through study and consultation with God we decided to retool a class I had developed for my students at Summit High. We decided to move forward with my directive of becoming a professional speaker.

I use the word directive purposefully because I feel God was directing me. I call them God Pokes. You know when you feel like you should do something but you don't want to? That is a God Poke in my mind.

I have learned to respond to the gentle nudge. It doesn't even take the poke anymore because I know what comes after the poke. It's the two-by-four (2x4 used in building; a board that is 2" by 4") That hurts! Believe me.

JeanieCiscoMeth

Life's lessons, the things you need to learn, will keep coming until you learn what you need to. However, the price tag keeps going up each time it comes back around. It is so much better when you learn them the first time. I'm just saying.

In the beginning, it took quite a few 2x4's to get me moving and it took courage every step of the way. I didn't want to call people. I didn't want to write a book. I didn't want to speak with large crowds of people. I didn't want to record a podcast. My "didn't want to" list could go on forever. My want list was two things. 1. I wanted to end the cycle of hurt people hurting people. 2. I wanted to help provide for my family so my husband could come home off the road.

Those two wants got me through all the don't wants. They are what gave me the courage to get up every day and keep moving forward. Holding on to the number one reason of wanting to help people heal and live to their full potential keeps me going even today.

It is why I get up in front of people. It is why I am on the radio all over the country. Why I am on TV shows. Why I keep writing and sharing with others.

It is still hard for me to write. I still hear the voices of my elementary teachers telling me I would never make it because I just had too many problems. I had too many learning disabilities. However, I also have courage. I have tamed the bully between my ears. When I hear those voices, I say, "If I was the only person who had problems with spelling and the written word, no one would have created spell check on computers. I am not the only one. I will push forward and help the ones I can."

I invite you to find your purpose.

I invite you live courageously.

Courage means taking the next step you feel is right even when you can't see the rest of the path. Courage is picking up the phone to make sales calls. Courage is letting people know what you feel. Courage is letting people know your beliefs and values. Courage is sticking by those values. Courage is the act of standing up each time you fall down.

If you're not afraid, there is no courage. Courage is acting in spite of fear.

So if you're afraid, good. Check your safety gear and jump in with both feet. You'll be glad you did.

Let me know how I can be of service to you, your family, or your organization.

Have a fantastic day and live courageously.

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Jeanie Cisco Meth has been helping people become more productive, authentic and accountable for over 25 years. Heralded as one of the best performance experts in the professional speaking arena, she inspires her audiences while simultaneously challenging them to make lasting change.

Jeanie's passionate yet humorous presentations guide people through the process of reconnecting with their personal authenticity and confidence while teaching them to take responsibility for their own decision, power and behavior.

Results are better harmony in the workplace, school, or community with greater individual happiness and performance.

Get the tools you need to live an authentic, courageous life.

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