

**“Courageous” starring Alex Kendrick, Ken Bevel, Kevin Downes, Robert Amaya, 2011, PG-13, 129 minutes**

**Major themes:**

- Fathering
- Faith
- Honor
- Marriage
- Family
- Priorities
- Death
- Courage

**Major characters:**

- Adam & Victoria Mitchell (Dylan, Emily)
- Nathan & Kayla Hayes (Jade)
- Javier & Carmen Martinez (Isabel, Marcos)
- Shane Fuller
- David Thomson
- T. J.
- Derrick

## Movie Nights for Thinkers and Seekers

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### Background info:

- “*Courageous*” was filmed in and around Albany, Georgia, where Sherwood Baptist Church is located. Sherwood Baptist Church runs and owns “*Sherwood Pictures*,” a film-production company which has produced “*Flywheel*” (2003), “*Facing the Giants*” (2006), “*Fireproof*” (2008), and “*Courageous*” (2011). Actors Ken Bevel and Alex Kendrick, along with Alex’s brother Stephen Kendrick, are all associate pastors at the church.
- The baby in the truck at the beginning is Ken Bevel’s real son.
- The scene that Adam is watching on TV is from the house fire in the movie “*Fireproof*.”
- The police station where the meetings take place was actually located at a jail.
- The abandoned building where Derrick underwent “*initiation*” was over 100 years old, and was torn down right after filming.
- Jim Bob Duggar (the father of the large Christian family of “*19 Kids and Counting*” fame) and ten of his sons were extras in the race scene. Several of the Duggar daughters participated in the funeral scene.

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### Scriptures:

Malachi 4:5 – 6a (The Message) – *“I’m sending Elijah the prophet to clear the way for the Big Day of God—the decisive Judgment Day! He will convince parents to look after their children and children to look up to their parents.”*

1 Corinthians 16:13 (NIV) – *“Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong.”*

Joshua 24:15 (NIV) – *“But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”*

James 2:18 (The Message) – *“You can no more show me your works apart from your faith than I can show you my faith apart from my works. Faith and works, works and faith, fit together hand in glove.”*

Romans 13:7 (NLT) – *“Give to everyone what you owe them: Pay your taxes and government fees to those who collect them, and give respect and honor to those who are in authority.”*

Hebrews 13:4 (NLT) – *“Give honor to marriage, and remain faithful to one another in marriage. God will surely judge people who are immoral and those who commit adultery.”*

Romans 8:38 (NLT) – *“And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God’s love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow--not even the powers of hell can separate us from God’s love.”*

Hebrews 3:6 (NLT) – *“Christ, as the Son, is in charge of God’s entire house. And we are God’s house, if we keep our courage and remain confident in our hope in Christ.”*

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### Discussion points:

1. What opportunities do we have to leave a godly legacy for the next generation?
2. Discuss the conflicting emotions this film may have left you with – inspiration, guilt, courage, fear, regret, hope, remorse, pride, etc.
3. How does strengthening fathers and mothers strengthen the community?
4. With so many broken families in our world today, what are some of the ways in which the process of fathering can be facilitated by someone other than the biological male parent? What can you and I do to be a more involved father or mother (biologically or spiritually) to those in our circle of influence?
5. What kinds of dangers do you face on a day-to-day basis?
6. How does God seem to use tragic circumstances to bring about good in our lives?
7. How can we inspire others to be the best they can be?

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## The Resolution

I do solemnly resolve before God to take full responsibility for myself, my wife,  
and my children.

I WILL love them, protect them, serve them, and teach them the Word of God as  
the spiritual leader of my home.

I WILL be faithful to my wife, to love and honor her, and be willing to lay down my  
life for her as Jesus Christ did for me.

I WILL bless my children and teach them to love God with all of their hearts, all of  
their minds, and all of their strength.

I WILL train them to honor authority and live responsibly.

I WILL confront evil, pursue justice, and love mercy.

I WILL pray for others and treat them with kindness, respect, and compassion.

I WILL work diligently to provide for the needs of my family.

I WILL forgive those who have wronged me and reconcile with those I have  
wronged.

I WILL learn from my mistakes, repent of my sins, and walk with integrity as a man  
answerable to God.

I WILL seek to honor God, be faithful to His church, obey His Word, and do His  
will.

I WILL courageously work with the strength God provides to fulfill this resolution  
for the rest of my life and for His glory.

As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.