

Hour of Power Deutschland
Steinerne Furt 78
86167 Augsburg

Telefon: 08 21 / 420 96 96
Telefax: 08 21 / 420 96 97

E-Mail: info@hourofpower.de
www.hourofpower.de

Baden-Württembergische Bank
BLZ: 600 501 01
Konto: 28 94 829

IBAN:
DE43600501010002894829

BIC:
SOLADEST600

Büro Schweiz:

Hour of Power Schweiz
Seestr. 8
8594 Güttingen
Tel.: 071 690 07 81
info@hourofpower-schweiz.ch
www.hourofpower-schweiz.ch

Spendenkonto:

PostFinance AG, 3030 Bern
Konto: 61-18359-6
IBAN:
CH1609000000610183596

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GOOD MORNING – Bobby Schuller (BS) and Hannah Schuller (HS)

BS: This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it. Good morning.

HS: And welcome visitors and church family. It feels so good to be with you today. You know, no human ever has or ever could love you to the degree that God loves you right now. His love for you surpasses knowledge, and we love you, too. Thank you for being here.

BS: Let's begin with a word of prayer. We thank you, Father, that we can come boldly before your throne. Thank you that you love us just as we are, not as we should be. And that you sent your Son to die for us that we could come before you completely white as snow. We thank you that the calling that you've given for us is not dead yet, and neither are we, and we pray in Jesus' name you'd give us the boldness and the faith to go after all you want us to do, and be all that we can be in your name, and it's in Jesus' name we pray, amen.

HS: Amen.

HAVEN: Turn to the person next to you and say God loves you and so do I.

SCRIPTURE – Johannes 3,10-17 – Hannah Schuller

In preparation for the message, John 3:10-17. "You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and you do not understand these things? Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven — the Son of Man. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him." For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever, whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Amen. Thank you Lord.

INTERVIEW – Kevin Downes (KD) with Bobby Schuller (BS)

Kevin Downes is an actor, producer, and director who has appeared in several films, including Courageous and Moms' Night Out. He also produced the hit films I Can Only Imagine and I Still Believe. He served as a producer on his newest project, Jesus Revolution, which is about the spiritual awakening movement of the 1970s.

BS: Kevin, hi! Welcome!

KD: Hey Bobby, how's it going, man? Good to be here.

BS: It's so great to see you, and thank you for joining us; I think you're on vacation in Hawaii right now, aren't you?

KD: I am. The movie just opened in theaters nationwide, which is like the end of a year and a half run, and my kids are on spring break next week, so my wife and I decided let's just get away for a little bit.

BS: Awesome! Can you show us a view like give us a little like pan around?

KD: Yes, there you go. I'm sort of out at the.. I'm somewhere..

BS: Are you on the golf course? All right.

KD: No, no, no, not at all. On the water, though, for sure.

BS: Super. Well thank you again for joining us. I'm really excited to see this movie. We actually already got our tickets for tomorrow but we are stoked about this movie. Of course, Jesus Revolution is about the Jesus movement; Lonnie Frisbee and Chuck Smith here at Calvary Chapel and different churches, and what an amazing story it is. I never thought it would be made into a movie, but tell us about it. How did you get to do this project and how did it all come together?

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KD: My partner Jon Erwin, who co-directed the film, we'd done a couple of projects that kind of dove into the Jesus movement of the '70's, and one of them was a movie called Woodlawn, and he stumbled upon this Time Magazine article, and as we kind of flipped through pictures of it, we saw pictures of Pastor Chuck Smith and Lonnie Frisbee and we're like there's a story in here somewhere. And so we met Pastor Greg Laurie and after some interviews we decided you know what, this is a story that needs to get told into a movie because I think God's people across America will be blessed. We don't know when it's going to be made, we don't know when it's going to come out, but we just fell on our hands and knees and just prayed that God would give us the wisdom and the perfect timing. And so little did we know when we started filming about a year and a half ago or a year ago, that we would be coming into a period where there's revivals breaking out on college campuses where people.. we see a hunger for God's people across the nation, and as the movie has come out, we've seen reports and videos that have people being saved and have spontaneous worship and just so many amazing miracles happening as a result of this film, and we just couldn't be more pleased. We give God completely the glory.

BS: I've noticed too that there's been, on YouTube, tons of videos now. There's so much interest, especially in Lonnie Frisbee. Like they're getting hundreds, two hundred, five hundred thousand views of people trying to sort of track down this.. I don't know if you know, Lonnie Frisbee actually had his funeral at the Crystal Cathedral, and I think he may be buried there.

KD: Yes, that's right. And in fact, Jonathan Roumie, who plays Lonnie Frisbee in the film..

BS: He's also Jesus from The Chosen, right?

KD: ..he's also Jesus from The Chosen, yes, so he went and visited Lonnie's gravesite before we started filming and literally made it specific so that he could have a time of prayer there just to be able to connect closer to Lonnie and just make sure that he gave his performance over to God. His stories are so incredible. His performance is so incredible because he really wanted to capture the spirit of Lonnie and how his relationship with Christ was so front and center, and why people were so attracted to his charisma, and what made his ministry tick.

BS: Hannah and I have this rule that if she really wants to see a movie and it got over 90% on Rotten Tomatoes, I don't care what it is I'll actually go. That's why I went and saw Princess Diaries II. It was there. And I've seen how your movie, at least when I checked a few days ago, it was like a 99% on Rotten Tomatoes, so people seem to love this movie. Seems like it's already a runaway success. Is it performing better than you thought it would?

KD: Oh, my goodness, its performing better than we could have imagined, and no pun intended on I Can Only Imagine, our previous film. But coming out of the pandemic when we were told people had been told to not leave their home, we weren't sure if people would want to come to a theater. And the beautiful thing is Jesus Revolution is a film that needs to be seen in a group of people because it absolutely allows for the Holy Spirit to come to work and see what happens in people's lives, and that's what we're seeing. I think the last count over three million people so far in the theatrical release have come to see this film in theater, and we just praise God for that.

BS: That's awesome. Well congratulations, Kevin Downes. We just are so grateful for the movie. I'll let you know what I think of it after I see it. I'm sure it'll be great.

KD: Yes, please do!

BS: And I think people love it, and we just want to say thank you for doing this. We want to encourage everybody at home go out and see Jesus Revolution. People are loving it. Its changing lives, and again, we appreciate you for making great films. We appreciate you, Kevin.

KD: Thanks Bobby so much. Have a great day.

BS: All right. Thank you. Appreciate you again. God bless you.

DECLARATION – Bobby Schuller

Well welcome to Shepherd's Grove. We're so glad you're here. This is a place full of energy, of course. And we like that around here. Whoever you are, would you stand with us? Hold your hands out like this as a way of receiving from the Lord. Let's say this together: I'm not what I do. I'm not what I have. I'm not what people say about me. I am the beloved of God. Its who I am. No one can take it from me. I don't have to worry, I don't have to hurry, I can trust my friend Jesus and share His love with my neighbor. Thanks, you can be seated.

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MESSAGE – How to Use Fear and Stress to Your Advantage

I'm going to talk about the positive side of fear and stress in your life today. And I think that it's going to help you a lot if you really listen to what I say. I think it'll help you in your career, I think it'll help you in your relationships, but if you don't hear this first thing, I almost don't care about the second part. Here's the first thing: I want you to repent and believe the gospel. I want you to have eternal life. I want you to recognize that God loves you just as you are and not as you should be, and that even now He's working to bring you home in Him. That all of us are born with a hunger and need to know and to be with God, and many of us think we can't do it unless we sort it out ourselves. But God has already sorted it out for us through Christ crucified. And I want to encourage you that if you trust in Him, that you will be forgiven, and that you can start a whole new life today. Many of us, all of us in this room have done stuff we've regretted. We have shame, we have stuff that was done to us, things we were part of, and we still regret it, and I want you to know God still loves you just as you are and not as you should be, and even now is willing to transform you into a whole new creation. Everyone in this building is alive for a reason, and it sounds crazy, but a part of capturing that reason is first being at peace with God, and you can be at peace with Him today if you trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, you will be saved. And if you do that today, I want you to invite Christ into your heart. I want you to get baptized. If you're watching on television, I want you to plug into a good Bible believing church, and I also want you to text me the word HOPE to the number on the screen and that way we can pray for you. It's the best decision you can make in your life. Now there is so much unbelievable world-changing power in this room; an incredible amount. It's incredible when you think about what Jesus' 12 disciples who were nobody fishermen, college age, teenagers, all of us are here in this building because of those 12 guys in Israel 2,000 years ago because they believed on the word of God and acted on it. And that is in and of itself a testimony for what you can do in your life if you simply have faith and trust in God. And I want to communicate a philosophy to you today that's helped me a lot about fear and stress. To actually see fear and stress as a good thing; something that can help you, something that can be a compass and a guide, something that can make you stronger, something that can show you what you really want and desire out of life. Almost for sure, everything you want in life, the thing you really want, the thing you were born to do, the art you were made to make, the business you were made to create, the ministry you were called to found, that between you and your destiny lies this scary shadow of a thing; this thing you're afraid of, that the way maybe you've always responded to it is by simply pretending like it's not there, when in fact its ironically pointing you to the very thing that you need. We'll talk about that. You were born to do something great. You're born to change the world, you're born to change culture, society, make a thing. In fact, the Bible says we're created in God's image, and if there's one thing other than love that would describe God it's that He's a creator. I mean look at the universe that we live in. All the colors and shapes and different things God is still creating today. And in a way, to be made in His image is to also be a creator, be a maker, be a doer, to form things. And every day that we give into fear, we betray ourselves. Every day that we look at the thing between us and where we want to be in life and we say I'll do it tomorrow, or we say actually I'm going to go watch TV, or we say I'm just going to phone a friend, or I'm going to go get a nice sugary meal. And none of those are bad things, but when they become an excuse to not do what you were born to do, you betray yourself. Every time there's something you want to do and you have a choice to dive into it, even though its hard and scary, or to wait, you decide whether to make your world bigger or make it smaller. When you decide to go into the scary thing that you're afraid of, your world becomes bigger. And when you decide to take a nap, or have a meal or watch TV and do it tomorrow, your world becomes smaller and you begin to train yourself to either be one who does it later, or one who does it now. Let's become do it now people. Let's become the kind of brave people that the Lord needs, that will do even silly things just for the sake of saying I will not be afraid. You are not made of cowardice or scary stuff. You're called to be a gift to the world. You're called to be a gift to the world. And I think so much of the stuff that we're ashamed of, so much of what we think of as sin, or of just outright sin, or even harm that we do to others or to ourselves, is very often us giving into the stress or the fear that lies between us and our destiny. So today I want you to see, first, stress as something that grows you, but even more importantly, I want you to see fear as a person. I want you to imagine like it's an actual guy or gal, or picture it as like an ogre sitting on treasure, or a dragon guarding a princess, or whatever it is, that the fear itself is a character in a book that is your story, and it's something that needs to be named and destroyed. And that the gift of fear is this: if you are afraid of the thing, that means that the thing its guarding is important to you. Let me say it again.

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What we are afraid of when it comes to our calling, our art or our work, the stuff we're most afraid of that creates the most emotional resistance in our life, is a compass, a sign that's pointing to where we're actually supposed to go. If you're playing a video game and you never get to any bosses, you're not playing it right. If you're watching a movie and you never get to a villain, you're not watching a good movie. The way you know where you're supposed to go next in life is the thing that makes you the most scared as it being associated with a calling, a work of art, a business, an organization, or it might be you need to get that spot checked on your back. Or it might be you need to reconcile with your kids, or you need to be serious about your faith, or you need to find a church, or you need to call your mother. There are these things in life that are super important that we're oftentimes afraid to do for whatever reason, and the more you want to put it off, the greater it is a sign from God that that's exactly what you're supposed to do. Do it now. Do it now so that your world becomes bigger and not smaller. Stop giving in to the resistance, press against it, have utter contempt for it, and your world will get bigger. That is a Bobby Schuller promise. And it is actually a theme from scripture, and I'll show you this in just a moment, but that this theme is really repeated over and over through both the old and in the New Testament. But before I get there, I want to make it a little more concrete. I'll give you three personal examples in my life. Here's the first one. Ones from my childhood, one is from college, and one is from my professional life. The first one, if you've heard me preach long enough, I love this story. You've probably heard it before, but it's worth repeating. I was in seventh grade and I went to a young life religious camp and 90% of it is just having fun, to be honest with you, and in 7th grade I had no problem with that. And one of the fun things we did was this thing called the blob. It's hard to describe the blob so I brought a picture. It looks like a giant inflatable pillow that you put on the water, and its like a weird version of like a teeter totter or a trampoline. Here's how it works. The first kid goes, jumps from the platform, lands on the cushy platform, no big deal, then scoots from the left side to the right side, or we could say from the back to the front, to the edge of the thing. And then a second person, a second kid crawls to the top of that platform, and he or she jumps and when he or she lands, the kid in the front goes into the air. Now we all understand basic physics: you know that the bigger the kid is who goes next, right? The higher you go. The smaller the kid is, the lower you go, and you go high. Let's just say that, and it's scary. And I remember in 7th grade seeing these kids do this, I remember watching from the shore looking up thinking I'm going to do this, but not yet. Oh, I'm going to do this, but not yet. Oh, that kids too big, that kids too big, I'm going to do this, but not yet, that kids too big. And I kept watching. Now we know when we grow up the more you think about doing something scary, the less likely you are to do it. The more you think about it, the less likely you are to do it. That's why if you even want to do it, just go for it. And I didn't go for it. I kept thinking and I kept thinking and I thought my way all the way home, and I never did it. And I remember that year, that whole 7th grade year, off and on thinking what a coward I was, and man I wish I had done that, and man, I should have just done it, and what would that be like, and will I ever get a chance again. So, the pain of regret and personal shame, I had like just this fear that I wasn't the brave enough kid to do it bothered me for a year. In 8th grade, I go back to Oakhurst. We go back to the same lake, the same blob, probably 50% of the same kids, they all looked the same: acne and cracking voices and things. And there I am, I'm looking at these kids doing this, they're all about the same size as they were before, and I had this counselor named Mike who was Hawaiian, and he's a big guy. Picture not fat, not muscular, but like a lineman. And he's super cool guy, and I really looked up to him. And he's standing next to me as I'm staring at it, I didn't even see him there, and he says in this Hawaiian accent, 'you want to go on the blob, don't you.' I looked at him, I was like yeah, I kind of want to, but I'm kind of busy. He said, 'Bobby, you should do the blob.' I was like oh, I know, but I'm kind of worried. Like what if I get like a really big guy and I get launched into orbit. He's like 'look they're all kind of small right now. You should go now while they're kind of small. This is your chance.' I was like okay, you're right. And there's never a line for the blob, there's just a crowd of people around, and it's like whoever is brave enough next will go. So I just went right for it. I climbed up the ladder and I got up and there was this tiny little kid at the end of the blob and looks up like all scared, and there's this savage part of me that got excited when I saw that because I forgot about what would happen to me for this brief moment and I decided I am going to launch this little guy. This is hilarious. So I do a cannon ball and I shoot him and he goes flying into the air. He looks like a cat being thrown out of a window. And then I start scooching to the edge and now my heart is pumping, I'm getting nervous and I'm hoping that there's this like small girl that was behind me, and I turn around, hoping to see this small girl and who do I see but at the top of the platform is Mike.

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Two hundred and fifty pounds of Hawaiian meat standing on the platform. I look up at Mike and I go Mike – in my loudest voice again – Mike, no. And just as I say this, Mike, who has this weird like tribal chant.. like ya, ya, ya, ya, ya, something, as he's jumping off, lands and I do go, I don't know how high the kid went before me, but I went high. And I was not a small kid but I was a skinny kid, and I went flying. And I sprawled and I landed and I belly flopped and I fell in the water. And here's what I want to say is everything I was afraid of happened. The biggest thing I was afraid of was a big kid. It was worse than that. It was a big grownup. And belly flopping, I was afraid of that. I was afraid of flying through the air, I was afraid of looking stupid in front of all the cute girls. All of these things happened. The only thing that didn't happen was my bathing suit coming off. And when I came out of the water, what were the emotions I had? Now imagine you're there. Imagine you're me after you're in the water and you come out of the water, what's the emotion? Joy, relief, stoked, do it again. Hundred percent! Do it again, and I did do it again. Freedom is a good word. Freedom from that thing that stood between me and what I really wanted, you see. The fact that I was so afraid of it was an indicator that I was supposed to do it. If I wasn't afraid of it, probably meant I didn't really care about it. And this is how it is with your art and your work. Here's a second example. Friend of mine, Chris, best friend in college was going to come out to California, visit me from Oklahoma. I was in love with his sister. Her name was Hannah, you might have met her, and Hannah had been dating my friend. I met her in high school when I was 15, actually. Been dating my friend for three years. They finally break up. The day I find out they're breaking up, I'm on my way to move to Germany for a job I just got for six months at the Expo in Hanover. The whole six months I'm in Germany, I'm dying inside. Just can't wait to get home to ask this girl out. I've been waiting for her to be single. I get home and what happened? She's back with her bozo boyfriend. Right? So, they're back together. I got to wait a whole other year and now a couple weeks has past, my friend is coming out to California, she's just broken up with his guy again, and I'm in California, and my thought is, ask Chris and Nate, my other friend, to bring Hannah with them. I'll pay her way. Just be like I'm in love with her, just bring her out. We got married two years later. Now she came out, and when she was here, she said you should come out to my brother's.. because we kind of had some budding interest, we didn't kiss or anything, but she said you should come out to my brother's wedding, and I said I'll come out if you give me the first dance and the last dance. And she said if you come out, I'll give you both. Yes. We're going to be married 20 years in May, by the way. So we're getting close there. Okay, so that's the second example. Second example that the thing I was afraid of was exactly what I needed to do, just be bold. Go for the girl. Okay number three, here's like a more of an art. Writing a sermon is always very much like writing a chapter of a book. I probably put about 20 hours into a sermon, just a lot of work. And I remember about ten years ago, I was going through the sermon on the mount and there's a whole thing on divorce. And I felt like I was so afraid of giving a sermon on this divorce chapter because divorce had been a part of my life. My parents were divorced and my dad was a minister when he had a divorce and there's a lot of complex things about that, and I just felt like this is not for me, I'm afraid of this. I'll get an expert to come in and talk about marriage. And what I realized is this philosophy – if I'm afraid of doing it, it probably means Satan doesn't want me to do it. That was the thought that came to my mind. And that is the clue, my friend. So I gave this sermon. I had multiple people say it changed their lives or saved their marriages, and to this day is probably the biggest impact sermon I've ever given. And I was within a hair of not doing it because I was afraid. So I've learned now that that fear is an indicator of the enemy's resistance. Now not always. Run from bears, don't walk on train tracks, right? Okay, we all know that. But in general, when it comes to creating a work, starting a business, talking to someone, when it comes to doing anything that is of real value, anything that has real value to you, the more you're afraid of doing it, the more you care about it. The more it matters to you and probably the more it matters to God. And this is why it's time to see fear, in a weird way, as a gift, saying here's the next thing you're supposed to do. Here's what you're supposed to do next. And the way we give in to fear is not by just not doing it, we all do the same stuff. Its TV, food, partying, substance, whatever. Its whatever your crutch is. And most of the stuff is not bad. Most of the stuff is not bad. And its fine if you use it as a reward, but what we do is we use it as a way to say tomorrow. We even do some good things, right? I'll do a different ministry. I'll do a different artistic thing that's not as important to me, because I'm not afraid of that. If you're not afraid of it, it probably isn't that important to you in terms of doing a new thing. I just returned from Israel about five days ago, so I'm amped up on coffee right now, if I seem a little on edge. It's just the jet lag. And I was with my brother-in-law, Nate, who's a good friend of mine and was doing a lot of our filming.

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And I was telling him about this sermon I was working on, this philosophy I use in life that I think is from the Bible. And he says to me, I read this great book called.. you've heard of The Art of War. There's a book called The War of Art. Great title by a famous script writer and a novelist, Steven Pressfield, he wrote Legend of Bagger Vance and a number of other movies and books. He says this exact same thing. It's an ancient idea. Lots of philosophers have talked about it, so it's not like I created it, but he highlights it in even better way. He calls it this fear.. he calls it resistance. It's the resistance. It's like a person that's between you and what you're supposed to do. And he says what you need to do is name it, call it out, defeat it and just be a professional. Just sit down and do the work. Just lean into the knife. Here's a great quote from him. "The more scared we are of a work or calling, the more sure we can be that we have to do it." That's exactly right. If there's something in your life that you want to do, something that you're called to do, something you were born to do, something you're afraid to do, and you're afraid to do it, the more afraid you are, the more you got to do it. The more you got to do it. If anything, just to be relieved of the fear. If anything, just to expand your universe. If anything, just so you can look in the mirror and respect yourself and say I'm the kind of person that does stuff I want to do even when I'm scared. That's who you are, and I'm so proud of you. You're already doing it. Keep doing it. Keep doing it. And so we get to the scripture from today. John 3:16. How many have heard this Bible verse by a show of hands. If you watch the Super Bowl or NASCAR you've seen a sign that says John 3:16. I think Tim Tebow he used to have it in makeup under his eyes when he'd play football. You've seen it a million places. It says "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whosoever believes in him shall not perish but have everlasting life." Okay, this is in context a message that is given to a famous rabbi by another famous rabbi, Jesus, they're talking. This old man says to Jesus, basically, all of us rabbis are basically jealous of you, but we know you're from God. We know that God sent you. And Jesus says to him, if you want to inherit the kingdom of God, you need to be born again, or born from above. And you need to be born of the spirit. You need to be born of water, and spirit. And Nicodemus says I don't even know what that means. And Jesus says to him, you are a teacher of Israel's people. How can you not know what I'm saying to you? And He says this. Something like this. This is my interpretation, okay? He says you hear the wind blow and you see what the wind does, but you don't see the wind. You see the results of it. And He says something like you hear a sound, but you don't know what causes the sound, but you know something caused it. And He says so it is of someone who is born of the spirit and born of water and born from above. You need to be a new creation. Something happens, in other words, in an invisible place in your life that you're a completely new creation. And then He says, "The son of man needs to be raised up in the same way that Moses raised up the snake in the desert." So what's He talking about there? Really interesting, very weird passage from the Torah. In the book of Numbers, just after Aaron dies, actually, the people are in the wilderness and they're wandering and these snakes begin to bite them. And many of the Israelites are dying. So they cry out to their leader, Moses. Moses, we're being bit by snakes. Ask God to stop the snakes. God, asks Moses, will you stop the snakes? And God says nope, I'm not going to stop the snakes. I made snakes. Now this isn't what the Bible says. It's me talking, you know. I made the snakes. You're in their hood. You're in their neighborhood. Snakes are biting you for a reason. He goes this is what I want Moses to do – make a bronze snake, put it on a pole, and raise it up. And anybody who looks at the snake will be healed of the poisonous bite. Now if you're Jewish, this is a really weird scripture for a lot of reasons, right? Number one – the first commandment of the ten commandments – you shall have no other gods before me, right? You don't make idols. You don't make graven images, especially of animals, and especially of the very worst animal – the snake, the serpent that represents who? Satan, right? It's a symbol of Satan. Why would you make an image of Satan and have people look at the image and be healed? Why would you do that? Carl Jung; I'm not a professional on Carl Jung, famous psychoanalyst, but his father was a minister, and he himself wanted to be a pastor, but instead became founder of real modern psychotherapy. And he had a great way of reading these scriptures from a soul perspective, and he said, and I think this is actually based on another rabbi, because I found an old original text from a couple thousand years ago, but he said, and I think a lot of other Jews believed this at the time, that what's happening is when a snake bites us, we want to say to God take away the snakes. But God says no, I'm going to make you a snake charmer. Or no, I'm going to make you bigger than the snake. We say take away the desert, and God says no, I'm going to make you tough enough to get through the desert. We say take away the giants. He says no, you're going to go in and slay the giants. Do you understand that this is what the scripture is about?

How to Use Fear and Stress to Your Advantage

That God does not want us to ask Him to make it easier, He wants us to ask Him to make us stronger. Better. And most of all, to face our fear and to even see our fear as under His judgement and control. When Moses raises up the pole with the snake, what they're called to do is look at the thing that they're afraid of. Just look at it. And when they look at it and stare it in the eyes, stare it in the face, look at this image, they are becoming who they're called to be – people who don't back away from what they're afraid of, but stare it right in the face and walk towards it. And that is when you are healed. This is what we find in the cross. Jesus says the son of man has to be raised up in the same way. Now we understand the substitutionary atonement that the main thing that's happening is Jesus is being sacrificed for our sins, but there's a second part, too. Remember, Jesus calls us to take up our cross and follow Him so that we can have eternal life. But part of that is seeing what it means to take up a cross. When Jesus is up on the cross, He's experiencing the real stuff that human beings are afraid of. Most of all death, but He also dies naked, right? Everything is out when Jesus is killed. He's betrayed by His friends. He's tortured when He dies. We see His mother weeping so a young 30-something-year-old son, mother outliving her son, one of the worst things that could ever happen to a person. The mother has to release her son to the world. All of these things are the things that we as parents and people fear the most in life, and it's God saying I do not stop at crucifixion. I go till resurrection. The whole point of the cross is a resurrection but you got to go through the cross. You can't just go to straight.. you have to have peanut butter and jelly. You have to have them together. And this is how it is with life. You want the victory in life, you got to face your fear, and you have to see fear as a thing that's indicating you to how to become a better person, what goal you're supposed to reach, what painting you're supposed to make, what book you're supposed to write, what doctor you're supposed to see. Some of you need to reconcile with your kids. That's scary. Or with your parents. Some of you watching on television, you need to go back to church. You need to start reading your Bible again. You need to reach out to friends. You need to break up with some other friends that are having a nasty influence on your life. You need to change your job or move to a place. All of these things are scary. Taking a class is scary, seeking help is scary, confessing sin is scary, but they always indicate where we're supposed to go next. Nobody wants a colonoscopy but sometimes you got to do it. This is a part of life. There's big things and little things. There's little things like the blob, and there's big things like committing your life to Christ, but all of these things have to do with becoming a bigger person, the kind of person who faces their fear. You can do it. You ask God for something; you say God I want this thing in my life. God says let's go. You say let's go tomorrow. Don't do that. When God says let's go, you go! When God says let's do it, you say let's do it. And this is why we see it, whether it's inheriting the promised land or facing Goliath or Peter walking on water, it's the fear that stands between these characters and who they're really supposed to be. It's the fear that needs to be called out, named, rebuked, cast down, disrespected and walked past like its nothing. That's what you do with fear. That's what you can do today. You can. You've got it in you. There's so much power in this room. It gnaws at me when someone says too old, too young, too poor, too stupid, too whatever. We all say it to ourselves. You've got it. You can do it today. Speaking of stupid, there's a stupid yacht in front of my favorite café. And I'll just finish with this story. Now I like boats, and if you own a giant yacht, congratulations. I think that's great. Have nice things, I don't care. But don't leave it in front of my favorite café. There's this café in the harbor I love. It's a French café, best croissants in town. You can go there and have a beautiful croissant and a cup of coffee for five dollars, watch the sun rise, and it's right at the perfect angle to look right down the harbor where you can see the mountains and all of the water and the houses and the boats and the fog coming off the ocean, except, in the slip right in front of the café, there's a hundred- and fifty-foot yacht. And I still remember the first time I went to this café and I'm having my coffee, and I went that is a beautiful yacht. And I'm like at least it's not an ugly building or something blocking, and one of these days, maybe next week that yacht will be gone and I can see the harbor. So, I go back every week, it's still there. Every week, it's still there. There's always three guys cleaning it. They're walking around, they're cleaning this and that, working on it. For two years I have never seen this boat leave this slip. This is big enough, awesome enough, multimillion-dollar yacht that at any time its owner could hop in and go to Hawaii or Cabo or Europe or have a friend do it. Put a homeless guy in and send him to Hawaii and make his day! But it's just sitting there! It's just sitting there. And at first you go that's cool, but after a couple years, you're like it's time to buy the slip, or buy the boat and sink it or something. If it's your boat, please move it. Its blocking my view. Blocking my view. And this is how so many people are, that in God's eyes, it's like this amazing piece of work that can do so much, just sitting in a harbor blocking people's view.

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Not today, man. Not today anymore, my friend. Today is the day to sail. It's the day to take a real step. Don't talk about it, don't tell somebody about it, don't say you'll do it tomorrow, do it now. God says let's go, you go. And just make a commitment, a promise to yourself that you're going to respect yourself enough that even if you're afraid of something, you'll choose to do what's scary because you know that that scary thing sits on a pile of gold. It sits on your destiny. And I want to encourage you; you can do it. And when you go, God gives you all the power. He doesn't give you the power before you go, it's when you go, the power turns on. And try it, you'll see. So Lord, we thank you and we ask in Jesus' name to give us a fresh view of the things we're afraid of, and of the stress in our life, and to recognize you've called us to do great things. We will not betray our soul anymore, but we'll do what we're called to do. Lord, we love you and we thank you. It's in Jesus' name we pray, all God's people said, amen.

BENEDICTION – Bobby Schuller

And now the Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift His countenance upon you and give you His peace in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, amen.