

No. 24      Be a Courageous . . . (Symposium)  
              —Congregation Elder

[PLEASE NOTE: This talk includes a video. After the video is shown,  
use it to illustrate the points that follow]

WHY ELDERS NEED COURAGE (1 min.)

If you are an elder, we commend you for your hard work and loving care  
for God's flock

You need courage to follow theocratic direction and to provide counsel  
when needed (Ga 6:1)

Your brothers look to you for guidance and spiritual protection,  
especially when difficulties arise

In the following video, note how an elder responded when faced with a  
choice that called for courage

VIDEO (2 min.)

HOW ELDERS CAN CULTIVATE AND DISPLAY COURAGE (5 min.)

Always remember that the flock belongs to Jehovah God (1Pe 5:2)

You have been entrusted with protecting God's precious sheep from  
apostate and immoral influences [Read Acts 20:28-30]

Elders will render an account to God for his sheep (Heb 13:17)

Do not allow sentimentality to distort your judgment (Ec 8:11; 1Ti  
5:20, 21)

Nathan the prophet courageously but tactfully confronted King David  
and reproved him (2Sa 12:1-14; w12 2/15 23 ¶1-3)

You must likewise uphold Jehovah's standards and give firm but  
loving counsel no matter who is involved (Tit 1:9)

Nathan and David were close friends; yet, Nathan corrected David  
Even when friendships and family ties are involved, elders maintain  
their hatred of sin (1Co 5:13)

Follow theocratic direction, and obey the two greatest Shepherds,  
Jehovah and Jesus

Nathan obeyed Jehovah's direction even when it differed from his  
personal viewpoint (2Sa 7:1-17; w12 2/15 24-25 ¶6-7)

Your heavy workload may at times seem overwhelming, but be assured  
of Jehovah's support as he cares for and sustains the shepherds he has  
put in place

Brother \_\_\_\_\_ will now present the last talk of this  
symposium, "Be a Courageous . . . Older Person"

TO BE COVERED IN 8 MINUTES