

## Why Virtue Matters - Virtue Essay Competition 2015 Finalists:

### Courage

The aspect of courage in society has transformed rapidly over the years though the perspective remains the same. Courage is a necessity to overcome fears and achieve a goal. Fear is something that exists in all of us. Being fearless is not required to be *courageous* one simply has to look past or overcome their fears to possess this *great* quality. Everyone has the ability to be courageous. Starving this ability is not the answer and it results in cowardly actions. Though when feeding it, courage grows and expands to different areas in your mind. This makes you stronger not only physically but also emotionally. Many people have *great* qualities, but not too many use *courage*! *Courage* is the ability to face a fear, pain, or a difficult obstacle.

You will be able to work better when working courageously. Your work will improve when you realise you are no longer hiding from yourself. The key to perform courageously is to prepare. When you have the key it is the door that has to be found. Being courageous isn't finding the door but being brave enough to open it.

Courage is a teachable skill. It can be taught by memories, life experiences and inspiring individuals. Others are inspired when you display courage. When someone inspires you have the courage to inspire others. We all face difficulties in our lives like losing something you love or getting something stolen. But what sets courageous people apart from cowards is fortitude. Having the courage to go out there and face those difficulties and diffuse them with passion and strength. Having such qualities is a hard thing to find. Not a lot of people can tell you that they have those qualities because too many people are scared of their difficulties.

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Some quotes that inspire me to be courageous are *“Watch your thoughts for they become words, watch your words for they become actions, watch your actions for they become habits, watch your habits for they become character and watch your character for it becomes destiny. Clear thinking requires courage rather than intelligence.”*

When displaying courage you will see life from a brighter angle, making every step lighter. Courage is one of the many keys to happiness and don't be afraid to open the door that goes with it.

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