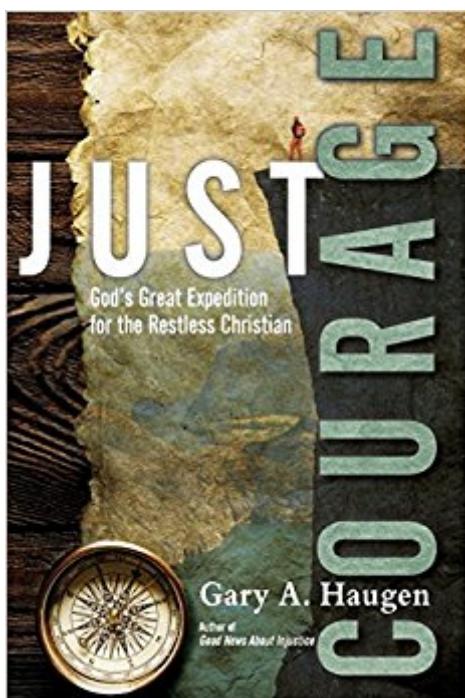


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# Just Courage: God's Great Expedition For The Restless Christian



## Synopsis

"There must be more to the Christian life than this—more than church each Sunday and waving to my neighbors and giving some clothes to Goodwill when I go through my closet each spring." These aren't bad things, of course. But they're safe and comfortable and easy. And there's a reason they're not satisfying your desire for something more significant and meaningful—we're created by God for adventure. International Justice Mission president Gary Haugen has found that engaging in the fight for justice is the most deeply satisfying way of life. This book shows how we too can be a part of God's great expedition.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"This book is a strong call for every Christian to deepen their walk with God. I encourage you to read this book and seek God's direction for the next step of service in your life!" (Jim Fretheim, *Imprints*, Winter 2009)"Filled with inspiring stories. Haugen challenges modern Christians." (DKW, *Libraries Alive*, Summer 2009)"Haugen predicts that the American church is on the verge of an awakening to justice. Fighting oppression means going into dark places, but he encourages us to find the strength and courage to obey God's commands. Just Courage forces us to answer the question, 'Would you rather be safe or brave?'" (Relevant, March/April 2009)"Warning: This book is dangerous. Haugen's book is already having an impact on my ministry. My prayer is that many people read Just Courage and then allow the Spirit of God to speak and move us all to live for justice." (Jim Unruh, *PRISM*, March/April 2009)"This book will challenge youth, adults, and especially parents to remove their

comfort barriers and enter a world where Jesus is saving and healing. This book is for anyone who desires to set out for a great adventure." (Jacqueline Davis, Moody Memo, December 2008)"This is one of the best books I've read this year. It is concise, well written, and challenging. This book provides a gentle nudge for those who desire to be gripped by the big issues of life but really don't know where or how to begin." (Debbie S. Book Bargains and Previews, (bookbargainsandpreviews.com), October 2008)"Here is a book about what it means to care - really care - as a Christian. If you honestly and prayerfully read Just Courage you will be changed - if you are willing to give your comfortable christian life to make a difference. Just Courage as a lifestyle is both risky and irresistible." (Frank Mills, Borderlands Review, (frankamills.com), October 2008)"Just Courage is undoubtedly one of the most thought-provoking books I have read in years. More than just thought provoking, Just Courage is faith-provoking, action-provoking, and provoking in general." (Beauty of the Bible, (beautyofthebible.com), October 28, 2008)"Haugen really opens the eyes of the reader to the realities of darkness. It makes one wonder, at times, who are the people who perpetuate sex-trade houses where children are being abused and raped? Worse, it makes me confront myself and say: 'What am I doing to bring these people to justice and, following Jesus, set these captives free?' . . . [Haugen] makes no bones about the fact that Christians have, by and large, not done enough. There is much to be done and each day is a day to get it done. Courage is required. Christians need to move out of the safety and into the world where they might get dirty, or hurt, or run out of town. Christians must be advocates for the weak and oppressed." (Advance Signs (advancesigns.wordpress.com), September 6, 2008)"[A] brief but stirring call to trusting faith, to daily discipleship, to a global vision, the hope of what Christ's followers are doing, and how we can take further steps to be agents of healing, hope and social transformation, especially for the hurting or oppressed. The chapters are very short, the readings inspiring, the discussion questions provocative, practical, usable." (Byron Borger, Hearts & Minds Books, June 14, 2008)"With tremendous power, simplicity and godly courage, Haugen is leading the body of Christ toward a more substantial expression of faith and love through the preservation of human dignity, value and worth." (Paul Coughlin, author of Unleashing Courageous Faith)"Just Courage is a life-changing book. Gary Haugen's echo of God's call to a life of significance and adventure is irresistible. He places the fight for justice right where the Bible does: square in the middle of Christian discipleship. Every follower of Jesus should read this book and take action on behalf of a world that 'waits, groaning' for us to bring hope, love and rescue." (Lynne and Bill Hybels, Willow Creek Community Church)"Gary Haugen explores what it means to really care about those who suffer--and it isn't necessarily the path we might expect. We tend to think of soup kitchens and painting buildings as

ways to express our compassion for those in need, but Gary makes a convincing argument that fighting for justice on behalf of the poor is a powerful, effective way to make a long-term difference in their lives. Don't miss this book!" (Kay Warren, executive director, HIV/AIDS Initiative, Saddleback Church)"Just Courage shines like exit-lighting, leading me out of the guilt-laden, often overwhelming conversations about what I should be doing, to the life-giving redemptive promises about my life as a follower of Jesus Christ. Gary Haugen speaks beautifully and directly to the truth that entering into justice work is not optional in the life of the believer, but is the realization of our deepest faith and desires to live lives of significance. The most important truth that I have taken from this book and from the work of IJM is this: the same suffering of others that caused me to question the goodness of God is now the conduit for truly understanding the goodness of God. There are profound aspects of his call and character that I cannot grasp, until I enter into the suffering of others." (Sara Groves, singer and songwriter)"I dare you to read Gary Haugen without growing a bigger vision of God. He is a prophet in our day calling us to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with our God." (John Ortberg, pastor, Menlo Park Presbyterian Church, and author of When the Game Is Over, It All Goes Back in the Box)

Gary A. Haugen is founder and CEO of International Justice Mission (IJM), a global human rights agency based in Washington, D.C. Before founding IJM in 1997, Haugen was a human rights attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice, and in 1994, he served as the director of the United Nations' investigation in the aftermath of the Rwandan genocide. Haugen is the author of The Locust Effect, Good News About Injustice, Terrify No More and Just Courage. He has been recognized by the U.S. State Department as a Trafficking in Persons "Hero" – the highest honor given by the U.S. government for anti-slavery leadership. His work to confront violence against the poor has been featured by Foreign Affairs, The New York Times, the New Yorker, The Times of India, Forbes, U.S. News and World Report, the Guardian and National Public Radio. He is a graduate of Harvard University and received a JD from the University of Chicago.

Gary Haugen's personal account of sacrifice and persevering hope is a life we can look at and see God's faithfulness. His words, which are drenched in authentic compassion for the oppressed, have given me a new hope for the "helpless" and a realization that God uses fearful, unequipped people like myself to accomplish his mighty works. I have a lot to consider after reading "Just Courage" and am now aware of the daily choice I must make to be brave rather than "safe". I would it is a must read for every believer.

I was concerned "Just Courage" would be a book about how the government or quasi-governmental organizations should step in and solve the problems of injustice. This book wisely sidesteps that problem by analogy - we can disagree what the perfect marriage looks like, but we all agree adultery is wrong. He discusses fighting slavery and oppression that we all agree is wrong, and argues that Christians should be doing so - NOW. There are many Christians already at it, and the rest of us need to get to work. Beware that this book will make you confront whether you want comfort or courage. I recommend it for all, especially those of us in America who often forget the injustice throughout the rest of the world.

Very challenging and encouraging book. We who have so much in material blessings and freedom have the opportunity and privilege to join in God's efforts to free the enslaved throughout the world.

Reader beware, if you would rather sit in a safety bubble and watch life pass you by, then this book is not for you! It is highly motivational, not because the author is cunning or pushy, but because it speaks to the truth that we all long to be brave for the good of those who are victimized. The detailed examples of God's faithfulness are always good to hear, and the stories of real-life humble heroism should be an encouragement to all.

A fresh and honest look at the adventure, freedom, and fear to be found in following Jesus. Great real live examples and practical guidance from Scripture. A passionate call for action to free others and ourselves.

This book was highly recommended to us but we couldn't get over the scolding tone and never finished it. Our friend was greatly inspired by it however.

I really enjoyed the insight into how IJM got started. I felt like the author stepped through and tried to show the readers their fears and how to overcome them.

Loved the author's perspective on justice. What it is and why we must work to see everyone receives it. Incredibly challenging but I never felt beat up on or was made to feel guilty. Highly motivating. This is going on my list of must reads for those I lead and those I love. This is the call of Christ.

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