

Pray for Conscience and Courage

By Joan Chittister

Loving God,
lead us beyond ourselves
to care and protect,
to nourish and shape,
to challenge and energize
both the life and the world
You have given us.

God of light and God of darkness,
God of conscience and God of courage
lead us through this time
of spiritual confusion and public uncertainty.

Lead us beyond fear, apathy and defensiveness
to new hope in You and to hearts full of faith.

Give us the conscience it takes
to comprehend what we're facing,
to see what we're looking at
and to say what we see
so that others, hearing us,
may also brave the pressure that comes
with being out of public step.

Give us the courage we need
to confront those things
that compromise our consciences
or threaten our integrity.

Give us, most of all,
the courage to follow those before us
who challenged wrong and changed it,
whatever the cost to themselves.

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You are invited to take some time to reflect on this prayer by Joan Chittister, a Benedictine sister of Erie, Pennsylvania. I encourage you to consider these meaningful words especially during these uncertain times we are experiencing.

<https://www.joanchittister.org/word-from-joan/prayer-conscience-and-courage#:~:test=Prayer%20for%20Conscience%20and%20Courage%20includes%20intercessory%20prayer%2016,conscience%20and%20threatened%20personal%integrity>