**“Fear Not”**

**Part 5 – FEARING THE FUTURE**

**MAIN TEXT: Matthew 2:1-18**

**1. FEARING THE FUTURE IS REAL – vs. 3-6**

**A. Fear of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**2 Chronicles 20:12** - We do not know what to do, but we are looking to you for help.

**Mathew 6:25-34** – “That is why I tell you not to worry about everyday life - whether you have enough food and drink, or enough clothes to wear. Isn’t life more than food, and your body more than clothing? **26**Look at the birds. They don’t plant or harvest or store food in barns, for your heavenly Father feeds them. And aren’t you far more valuable to him than they are? **27**Can all your worries add a single moment to your life? **28**“And why worry about your clothing? Look at the lilies of the field and how they grow. They don’t work or make their clothing, **29**yet Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are. **30**And if God cares so wonderfully for wildflowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you. Why do you have so little faith? **31**“So don’t worry about these things, saying, ‘What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?’ **32**These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. **33Seek the Kingdom of Godabove all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.** **34**“So don’t worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

**B. Fear of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Matthew 10:28-31** -“Don’t be afraid of those who want to kill your body; they cannot touch your soul. Fear only God, who can destroy both soul and body in hell. **29**What is the price of two sparrows - one copper coin? But not a single sparrow can fall to the ground without your Father knowing it. **30**And the very hairs on your head are all numbered. **31**So don’t be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows.”

**2. FEARING THE FUTURE CAUSES POOR DECISIONS – vs. 7-9; 16-17**

**Proverbs 13:20** - Walk with the wise and become wise; associate with fools and get in trouble.

**Psalm 1:1** – Blessed *is* the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly…

**A. Fear leads to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ decisions**

**Psalm 36:1-4** - Sin whispers to the wicked, deep within their hearts. They have no fear of God at all. **2**In their blind conceit, they cannot see how wicked they really are. **3**Everything they say is crooked and deceitful. They refuse to act wisely or do good. **4**They lie awake at night, hatching sinful plots. Their actions are never good. They make no attempt to turn from evil.

**B. Fear leads to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ decisions**

**1 Samuel 28:17** - The Lord has done just as he said he would. He has torn the kingdom from you and given it to your rival, David.

**3. RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD BRINGS FREEDOM FROM FEAR – vs. 13-14**

**A. Relationship with God brings \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Psalm 32:8** - The Lord says, “I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you.

**B. Relationship with God brings \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Psalm 112:1,7** – Praise the Lord! How joyful are those who fear the Lord and delight in obeying his commands. **7** They do not fear bad news; they confidently trust the Lord to care for them.

**C. Relationship with God brings \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Psalm 27:1-3** - The Lord is my light and my salvation - so why should I be afraid? The Lord is my fortress, protecting me from danger, so why should I tremble? **2**When evil people come to devour me, when my enemies and foes attack me, they will stumble and fall. **3**Though a mighty army surrounds me, my heart will not be afraid. Even if I am attacked, I will remain confident.

**Psalm 23:6** – Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the house of the Lord forever.