

DISCUSSION GUIDE for INTERVENTION Series #3: “Fear / Victory”

1. What is something you were afraid of as a child?
2. What have you not done in your adult life because you were afraid of the risk?
3. The first section of the sermon notes deal with “The Tools to Defeat Fear”. The article in today’s bulletin expands on those first four points: Face your fears, Become Realistic, Cease Sinful Behaviors and Seek Professional Assistance. Read each of those sections from the article aloud in the group. Ask the question(s) below after each section.
 - Face Your Fears: Have you ever faced a big experience while trembling with fear, but are glad you took the risk?
 - Become Realistic: Are you a ½ cup full or empty person? Do you tend to expect the worst in a situation? How do you try and handle that when it pops into your heart and mind?
 - Cease Sinful Risks: What are some sinful behaviors that cause someone to fear the risks?
 - Seek Professional Assistance: Is there an experience in your life where you saw a fear grow and grow bigger? What did you do?
4. Read these two verses from John 14 and answer this question, “What should you replace fear with in your heart? How do you do this?”
 - John 14:1 - NIV 1 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.
 - John 14:27 NIV 27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.
5. Can you trust in the midst of fear? Can the two co-exist together? Consider Psalm 56:3-4.
 - *Psalms 56:3-4 NIV 3 When I am afraid, I will trust in you. 4 In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I will not be afraid. What can mortal man do to me?*

6. 1 John 4:18 (NIV 18 There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.) How does :”perfect love” get rid of fear?

7. What does Romans 8:15 tell us about what fear does to us?
 - *Romans 8:15 NIV 15 For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father."*

8. How does a healthy fear of God impact you? Can we love someone and fear them at the same time?

9. Do you think you fear God enough? How do you do this? Or how can a lack of fear of God be seen in your life?

10. What is a good application of this topic? What fear do you think you need to overcome today? What is the next big step that you’re hesitating on right now because you are worried about what will happen as a result? How can we pray for one another?