



SPECIAL SERMON
"Honor Dew Part 3"
Sermon Small Group Questions
Speaker: Pastor Dave Patterson

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

- This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. After considering the needs of your group, you may choose one of the following options:
 1. one section of questions
 2. one or two questions from each section
- Feel free to adapt the format to meet the needs of your group. If your group is mature and wants to dig deeper, add Scripture and ask suitable questions. Remember that this is only a guide.
- Personal application is key to everyone's growth and should be included in every discussion. When asked how he or she intends to apply a certain principle a group member may say, "I need to spend more time in the Bible and in prayer." It is important for you to help group members make applications that are more specific and commit to a specific plan of action by asking, for example, "How are you going to begin?" An example is to get up 30 minutes earlier each morning, spending 15 minutes reading the Bible and 10 minutes in prayer. Encourage each group member to be accountable to the group for personal progress at the next meeting.
- As the leader your goal is to help bring the group into a stimulating discussion that helps the members recognize their need for personal life change. Ultimately you want them to be willing to commit to change with accountability to the group. Accountability helps us to persevere in our commitments and achieve the blessings of success.

INTRODUCTION

We can not effectively Honor God without a fresh revelation of the Fear of the Lord. Having a full awareness of who God is, will be the beginning of a healthy Fear of the Lord. The Word of God declares that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

[Psalm 33:8]

"Let all the earth fear the Lord; Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him."

[Isaiah 8:13]

Make the LORD of Heaven's Armies holy in your life. He is the one you should fear. (Reverence, honor, and respect) He is the one who should make you tremble.

Fear of the Lord: *To honor, to revere, to respect and stand in awe.*

The amplified definition:

The continual awareness that I am in the presence of a holy, just, almighty God, and that every thought, word, action and deed of my life is before Him and being judged by Him and one day I will give an account of my life to Him.

MESSAGE

[Luke 12:1-5]

Meanwhile, the crowds grew until thousands were milling about and stepping on each other. Jesus turned first to his disciples and warned them, "Beware of the yeast (teaching) of the Pharisees—which is their hypocrisy. 2 The time is coming when everything that is covered up will be revealed, and all that is secret will be made known to all. 3 Whatever you have said in the dark will be heard in the light, and what you have whispered behind closed doors will be shouted from the housetops for all to hear! 4 "Dear friends, don't be afraid of those who want to kill your body; they cannot do any more to you after that. 5 But I'll tell you whom to fear. Fear God, who has the power to kill you and then throw you into hell. Yes, he's the one to fear.

Why is it we don't give God the reverence He is due? Without a true revelation of the Fear of God we will not give Him the honor due Him. We as a nation do not have a Biblical understanding of who God is.

[Romans 1:21-23]

Yes, they knew God, but they wouldn't worship him as God or even give him thanks. And they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. As a result, their minds became dark and confused. ²² Claiming to be wise, they instead became utter fools. ²³ And instead of worshiping the glorious, ever-living God, they worshiped idols.

People don't fear God because they have a twisted view of who Jesus is.

The cults who have created the most confusion are those who have watered down who Jesus is. They strip Him of his authority and fail to revere Him for who He is.

Examples of false images of Jesus:

Santa Jesus- crawl up in his lap and tell him what you want and if your good he will bring you your gifts.

911 Jesus- I live like hell and know Jesus will come to my rescue when I have an emergency.

State farm Jesus- "Like a good neighbor Jesus is there"

Dashboard Jesus- I don't live for God but knowing he is there he will keep me safe from vampires and werewolves.

Co-pilot Jesus- When I get lost I can turn to Him for directions.

Buddy Jesus- Jesus is my positive life coach. He lifts me up when I am down and gives me a pep talk when I need encouragement.

The Bible tells us that we can learn to fear God.

[Deuteronomy 4:10]

“I will personally instruct them. Then they will learn to fear me as long as they live”

Benefits of fearing God

1. The favor of God

[Psalm 147:11]

“The Lord favors those who fear Him.

2. The Blessing of God

[Psalm 115:13]

He will bless those who fear the LORD, both the great and the lowly

3. No Lack

[Psalm 34:9]

Fear the LORD, you his godly people, for those who fear him will have all they need.

4. Divine protection from enemies

[Psalm 115:11]

“For those who fear the Lord and put their trust in the Lord, He is their help and their shield (protection from attacks) .”

5. Escape from life-threatening traps

[Proverbs 14:27]

Fear of the LORD is a life-giving fountain; it offers escape from the snares (traps) of death.

6. We are trusted with the secrets of God

[Psalm 25:14]

*“The LORD is a friend to those who fear him. With them alone, **He shares the secrets** of his promise”*

7. The fear of the Lord brings wisdom and all its blessings

[Psalm 111:10]

The fear of the LORD is the beginning (foundation) of all wisdom; And all who obey his commandments will grow in wisdom.

8. The fear of the Lord makes us the target for God’s kindness and compassion!

[Psalm 103:10-13]

*He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. ¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love **for those who fear him**; ¹² as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. ¹³ As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has **compassion on those who fear him**;*

9. Those who fear the Lord stay committed to following Jesus!

[Jeremiah 32:40] *I will make an everlasting covenant with them: I will never stop doing good to them, and I will inspire them to fear me, **so that they will never turn away from me.***

10. Good stuff!

[Proverbs 22:4]

“The reward of humility and the fear of the Lord are riches, honor and life.

How do we live with the fear of the Lord?

- Spend time in His Word
- Ask Him for it:

[Proverbs 2:2-5]

*My child, Tune your ears to wisdom, and concentrate on understanding ³ **Cry out** for insight, **and ask** for understanding. ⁴ **Search** for them as you would for silver; **seek** them like hidden treasures. ⁵ Then you will understand what it means to fear the LORD, and you will gain knowledge of God.*

- We need an encounter with God that revolutionizes our ability to respect, revere, and fear our God.

Pray this out:

[Psalm 86:11](Amplified)

Teach me your ways, O LORD, that I may walk and live according to your truth! Give me a focused and undivided heart, so that I may fear you and honor your name .

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Do you have, or have you had any phobias?**
- 2. When you hear the phrase, "The fear of the Lord" what images come to mind?**
- 3. Why do you think we have such a difficult time grasping a healthy fear of God?**
- 4. What false images of Jesus are you familiar with?**
- 5. Which of the ten benefits of Fearing God do you need most?**
- 6. What can you do this week to increase a healthy fear of the Lord in your life?**
- 7. Have you ever had an encounter with God?**
- 8. Conclude with praying out Psalms 86:11**

Teach me your ways, O LORD, that I may walk and live according to your truth! Give me a focused and undivided heart, so that I may fear you and honor your name .