

Living in the Light

A STUDY IN 1ST JOHN

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Living in the Light Part 7—What are you afraid of?
5.30.2021

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

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. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

1 John 5:13

I've written this letter to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you will *be assured and know* without a doubt that you have eternal life.

1 John 4:13-15 (amp)

This is how we know that we live in him and He in us: He has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. We have come to know by personal observation and experience, how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in His love.

1 John 4:16-17

God is love (*agape*). Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment.

1 John 4:18

There is no fear in love (*agape*). But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment (mental torment). The one who fears is not made perfect in love. We love because he first loved us.

FEAR = *“an emotional response to a perceived threat”*.

Proverbs 29:25

Fear of man will prove to be a snare (trap)
but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe.

2 Timothy 1:7

For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but a spirit of power, love, and self-discipline (sound mind)

John 14:27 (amp)

“Peace I leave with you; My perfect peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, and do not be afraid. Let My perfect peace calm you in every circumstance and give you courage and strength for every challenge”

1. Remember what (*Agape*) love has accomplished

Romans 8:1 (amp)

Therefore, there is now no condemnation, no guilty verdict, no punishment, for those who are in Christ Jesus [who believe in Him as personal Lord and Savior]

2. Rehearse what (*Agape*) Love is saying

Numbers 13:32-33

But the other men who had explored the land with him disagreed. “We can’t go up against them! They are stronger than we are!” So, they spread this bad (evil) report about the land among the Israelites:

Numbers 14:1-4

Then the whole community began weeping aloud, and they cried all night. Their voices rose in a great chorus of protest against Moses and Aaron. "If only we had died in Egypt, or even here in the wilderness!" they complained. "Why is the Lord taking us to this country only to have us die in battle? Our wives and our little ones will be carried off as plunder! Wouldn't it be better for us to return to Egypt?" Then they plotted among themselves, "Let's choose a new leader and go back to Egypt!"

Numbers 14:5-9

Then Moses and Aaron fell face down on the ground before the whole community of Israel. Two of the men who had explored the land, Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh, tore their clothing. They said to all the people of Israel, "The land we traveled through and explored is a wonderful land! And if the Lord is pleased with us, he will bring us safely into that land and give it to us. It is a rich land flowing with milk and honey. Do not rebel against the Lord, and don't be afraid of the people of the land. They are only helpless prey to us! They have no protection, but the Lord is with us! Don't be afraid of them!"

Joshua 1:5-9

(Amp)

No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you.

Be strong (confident) and of good courage, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land which I swore to their fathers to give them.

Only you be strong and very courageous, that you may do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you. Turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go.

This Book of the Law shall not depart out of your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, that you may observe *and* do according to all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall deal wisely *and* have good success.

Have not I commanded you? Be strong, vigorous, and very courageous. Be not afraid, neither be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

3. Run to perfect love (Jesus) in times of fear!

Psalms 56:3-4

But in the day that I'm afraid, I lay all my fears before you
and trust in you with all my heart.

What harm could a man bring to me?

With God on my side, I will not be afraid of what comes.

Psalms 34:4

"I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears."

FOR MONDAY—

1. Pray and ask God for the strength to overcome fear.
2. Invite God to speak to you about your fears. Get in the word and find out how what God says about your fears and rehearse what his love is saying over you.

TALK IT THROUGH

1. In your life, what are some of God's words that you need to agree with? What are some promises the Lord has made but you haven't seen fulfilled yet?
2. Why do you think a lot of the battle happens in our minds or as internal dialogue?
3. Who reminds you that God is faithful? How has their life modeled that?
4. What is the greatest lie the enemy has told you and what does the word of the lord say to rebuke it?
5. Do you know what your spiritual weapons are?
6. Are you running from your fears or running to Jesus? Where is your Rome?