



The Grace of a Life Fearing God

Week of March 3, 2019

These Digging Deeper questions can be used the week following the Sunday message. You can use these questions for personal growth and development, or as a guide for your family or Connect Group discussions.

Message Recap:

Read Proverbs 1:7; Matthew 10:28

Fearing the Lord is the first and last fear. Acceptance of this truth is the starting place. Embrace this fear which is the antidote to arrogance. The fear of God will draw us away from evil and toward intimacy with God as we live a life of grace through Jesus Christ. We are accountable to God for everything we do. This includes using the gifts we have been given, revealing Jesus to others, as well as being accountable for everything we do and say, and the grace we extend to others. We are to humble ourselves before God (Repent), trust in God's power and ability (Restart), and treat others with the worth of Jesus Christ (Begin). These are the actions we must take to live out our life of grace through fear of God.

Pray

Dear God, give us a fearful heart to follow you. A fear that draws us closer to you and further from evil. Give us a willingness to be humble, trusting, and grace-filled as we live our lives to reveal to others the grace we are given through Jesus. Amen.

Getting Started

- What fears did you experience as child that were completely irrational?
- Tell about a time that have you felt fear and that fear saved you from a bad situation?

Digging Deeper

1. Consider the statement, "The fear of the Lord is the first fear and the last fear." How does this make you feel and why?
2. What arrogant beliefs, thoughts, or actions keep you from fully fearing the Lord?
3. Explain why we must embrace the fear of the Lord, and why we need to run towards it and not away from it.
4. The root of fear based in evil is the threat of destruction as Satan whispers, "You will be destroyed if _____ happens." What's in your "blank" and how will you overcome this fear?
5. Read Mark 4:21-25. In what ways are we accountable in our behavior? How are you using your gift and talent to honor God and revealing Christ to others?
6. We are accountable for the courage to play the hand we have been dealt. How well is this going for you? Explain your answer.
7. In your own words, define the word repent and your experience with repentance. Is there something God is calling you to repent from? What is the "next" God is calling you to?
8. And your life video rolls...what thoughts go through your mind as you consider the video of your life? In what ways will this impact your behavior in the future?

Living Jesus

Know that you have accountability to God for every moment and every relationship leads to a healthy fear of God. Acknowledge the undeserved grace extended to you through Jesus Christ by humbly repenting. The next step is for you to trust in the power and ability of God to take you from your "now" to his "next". This is the Restart. Finally treat everyone with value greater than yourself, a value as great as Jesus Christ who is of infinite value. This is the Beginning.

What's Your Story?

These are steps accomplished not only in fear but also faith. What ways are you seeing that you have changed and what areas are you still working on?

Share how God is working in your life at SevernRunner.info/stories.