

Lesson 3 --- Courage: Fighting Fear with Fear

Chapters 5 and 6 (Discussion questions are in **bold***)

December 20, 2018

Chapter 5: Getting to the Heart of the Problem

But to me it is a very small thing that I may be examined by you, or by any human court; in fact, I do not even examine myself. For I am conscious of nothing against myself, yet I am not by this acquitted; but the one who examines me is the Lord. 1 Corinthians 4:3,4

1. What are some examples of the problems the fear of man produces? What problems has it created in your life? Give specific illustrations.
2. **What reason does this chapter give for our frequent failures to overcome the fear of man?***
3. What was the point of Dr. Tripp's apple tree illustration? What are some of the ways in which you have lived out this illustration in your life?
4. Give an example of how a guilty conscience can produce fear.
5. **What does fear reveal about the things you treasure?***
6. How does understanding that principle help you overcome fear?
7. **How was Paul able to be courageous in the midst of the most difficult situation? Give scriptural support for your answer.***
8. What are some reasons people don't trust God?
9. How can a distorted view of God produce fear?
10. Are there ways in which you have become sinfully afraid as a result of unbelief? Be specific.

11. Explain why fear and trust are “inextricably linked.” Give scriptural support for your answer, and explain why an understanding of this can help you overcome fear.

12. How does the fear of man reveal that you’ve lost a correct perspective?

13. What are some of the ways in which you put people in God’s place? Give specific examples of ways that you have done this.

14. Explain why you can be certain there is hope for overcoming sinful fear.*

15. What will it require for you to overcome sinful fear?

16. What do you need to change as a result of the truth contained in this chapter?

17. What specific steps are you going to take to accomplish that change?

Chapter 6: Throw off the Covers

He who conceals his transgressions will not prosper, But he who confesses and forsakes them will find compassion. Proverbs 28:13

1. How does the promise of Proverbs 28:13 apply to dealing with fear?

2. What do you think are some reasons people conceal their sin?*

3. What are some specific ways you have concealed your sin in the past?

4. What are some ways in which people hide from God? What are some of the ways in which you have hidden from God?

5. Do you have anyone in your life who will confront you when you sin? If so, who is that person? If not, why not?
6. How do people lie about their sin? What lies do you use to cover up your sin?
7. Why is it so important to stop concealing the fear of man?
8. **Why is it absolutely essential to recognize that the fear of man is sin?***
9. **How is the fear of man selfishness?*** Give a specific example from your life when the fear of man caused you to be selfish.
10. Explain how the fear of man is not sensible.
11. **In what ways is the fear of man an assault on the character of God?***
12. What are you saying about God when you are controlled by sinful fear? Be specific.
13. Why is it so sad for you as a believer not to trust God?
14. What can you learn from Numbers 14 about trusting God?
15. What does this chapter have to do with overcoming the fear of man?
16. **What are the top three truths you learned from this chapter?*** How are you going to change as