

DON'T BE AFRAID

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John 6:16–21 (NLT) (16) That evening Jesus' disciples went down to the shore to wait for him. (17) But as darkness fell and Jesus still hadn't come back, they got into the boat and headed across the lake toward Capernaum. (18) Soon a gale swept down upon them, and the sea grew very rough. (19) They had rowed three or four miles when suddenly they saw Jesus walking on the water toward the boat. They were terrified, (20) but he called out to them, "**Don't be afraid. I am here!**" (21) Then they were eager to let him in the boat, and immediately they arrived at their destination!

What are you afraid of today?

Why are you afraid?

THREE IMPORTANT TRUTHS:

1) Fear of the _____ is a good thing.

Deuteronomy 6:13 (NLT) (13) You must fear the LORD your God and serve him. When you take an oath, you must use only his name.

Psalms 103:8–17a (NLT) (8) The LORD is compassionate and merciful, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. (9) He will not constantly accuse us, nor remain angry forever. (10) He does not punish us for all our sins; he does not deal harshly with us, as we deserve. (11) For his unfailing love toward those who **fear him** is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth. (12) He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west. (13) The LORD is like a father to his children, tender and compassionate to those who **fear him**. (14) For he knows how weak we are; he remembers we are only dust. (15) Our days on earth are like grass; like wildflowers, we bloom and die. (16) The wind blows, and we are gone— as though we had never been here. (17) But the love of the LORD remains forever with those who fear him.

2) We experience fear and anxiety and are afraid when we believe things are _____.

3) We often experience fear and anxiety and are afraid when things happen that _____.

THREE THINGS WE CAN/SHOULD DO:

- 1) We need to _____ the things we don't understand and are outside of our control.

Psalm 34:4–6 (NLT) (4) I prayed to the LORD, and he answered me. He freed me from all my fears. (5) Those who look to him for help will be radiant with joy; no shadow of shame will darken their faces. (6) In my desperation I prayed, and the LORD listened; he saved me from all my troubles.

Philippians 4:6–7 (NLT) (6) Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. (7) Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

Do you pray or do you sit around and get caught up in stinking thinking?

- 2) We need to discipline ourselves to _____.

- 3) We need to remember when we are afraid that _____.

When we trust Jesus to be present with us and do what is best in every circumstance in our lives, there is no need to worry or be anxious. When Jesus is present, there is no need to be afraid.

*For more information about what it means to begin a relationship with Jesus or what to do after making a decision to follow Him, stop at Guest Central in the lobby following the service, email us at info@otterbeinchurch.org, or call the church office at 717.762.7147 to set up an appointment. You may also learn more about what it means to follow Jesus and/or request materials and find additional information to help you on your spiritual journey by clicking "**Next Steps > Jesus**" on our website at www.otterbeinchurch.org.*