

Teaching Notes for "Wild Goose Chase – Cage of FEAR - Pt 1"

NewSong Church Pastor David Haltom Sunday, October 8th, 2023



Today's Focal LifeText: "The **Wind*** (Holy Spirit / Wild Goose) blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going.

So it is with everyone born of the Spirit*." **John 3:8** * - The Greek for **Spirit** is the same as that for **Wind**

reWIND reVIEW ...

In this sermon series, we have studied in great depth **5 of 6 Cages that keep us from roaming free with the Wild Goose**, and living the spiritual adventure of that God has destined us to undertake.

001 The Cage of _____

002 - The Cage of _____

003 The Cage of _____

004 The Cage of _____

005 The Cage of _____

006 The Cage of _____ (Starting Today)

Instead of seeking out _____, many live by their own _____ & end up settling for _____.

Instead of putting God **FIRST**, many put their daily _____ first. Instead of living by **FAITH**, many are swayed by

FALSE _____ & choose to allow their **PAST** _____ & _____ to dictate their decisions ...

thus leaving them to **live ineffective, caged Christian lives**.

Let us look at some definitions of the word FEAR ...

† "the feeling of _____ & _____ caused by the presence or eminence of danger that is either real or perceived."

† "to be _____ or **apprehensive** / _____ about something"

† "to have **extreme, reverential** _____ (e.g. of/for God)"

† Interestingly, psychiatrists say that humans are **born with only two fears** - the **fear of** _____ and the **fear of** _____. That means **every other fear is** _____, which means that **every other fear can be** _____!

_____ **fear(s)** ... **keeps us** _____ in our _____ (i.e. **Cage of Fear**)

"**FEAR** is a **thief**. It **erodes our faith, plunders our hope, steals our freedom, and takes our joy of living the abundant life in Christ**. **Phobias** are like the **coils of a snake** - the **more we give in to them, the tighter they squeeze**. Tired of fighting, we (eventually) **succumb to the temptation and surrender to our fears** ... and we (then) find ourselves in a **prison ... of fear that holds us captive**." ~ Neil T. Anderson & Rich Miller, *Freedom of Fear*, pp. 25, 1999

Each of our hearts' desire should be likened to that of the Psalmist ... **Psalms 142:7a** ^{CEV}

"God has not given us a spirit of **fear***, but if power and of love and of sound mind [abilities that result in a calm, well-balanced mind and self-control (self-discipline ^{NLT})] **Amplified**." **2 Timothy 1:7** ^{NKJV}

* - "_____" in this verse comes from the Greek word "_____" meaning "**cowardice, timidity, frightened, terrorized, running scared**" / The **phobos (fear)** here didn't come from God, rather it is a weapon of our enemy and this fallen world!

FEAR is the very **FIRST** emotion recorded in scripture after the Fall of Adam & Eve in the Garden of Eden ... **Genesis 3:9-10**

Let us clarify something very important for a moment ...

FEAR is a lot like _____ ...

Kept in its God-given place, fear is very _____. **Fear helps us to detect and deal with both real and perceived** _____! **FEAR** can be used to _____ **our foods & draw us closer to others in moments of** _____ (e.g.s **campfires, firepits**)!

FEAR is a lot like **FIRE** ...

Left unattended, **FEAR** can rapidly _____, and create _____.
No area in our lives - if left _____ - is _____!

A³ (**A**ccept, **A**pply & **A**ct)