

F A I T H
O V E R
F E A R

THE OPPORTUNITY OF FEAR
EXODUS 16:1-36

1. Fearful circumstances create opportunities for you to _____ your _____. (v. 1-8)

2. Fearful circumstances create opportunities to _____ God and _____ him at work in your life. (v. 9-18)

3. Fearful circumstances create opportunities for _____ - _____. (v. 19-30)

4. Fearful circumstances create opportunities for _____ God in the _____.
(v. 31-36)

DAY 1

Pray: Psalm 56:3-4 “When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God I trust: I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?” U.S. currency bears the words “In God we trust” reminding us that we cannot trust in money, but in God alone. Today as we begin to identify our fears relating to money, pray the words of Psalm 56:3-4 asking God to grow your trust in Him for all things.

Memorize: Read (or recite) Psalm 46:1. Now read Psalm 46:2. Write the entire verse on the lines below.

Study: Pages 29-33

Pray: In closing today reflect on Luke 12:22 “Do not be anxious about your life.” Ask God to show you areas of worry and anxiety in your life. Confess any that come to your mind and commit yourself anew to trusting Him!

DAY 2

Pray: John 14:27 “Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.” Pray that God would show you worldly things that you are looking to for peace. Ask Him for the peace that only He can give.

Memorize: Psalm 46:2. Read the verse through completely and fill in the blanks. “Therefore we _____ though the _____ gives way, though the _____ be moved into the _____ of the _____.”

Study: Pages 34-37

Pray: In Luke 12:29-30 Jesus tells us “not (to) seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. For all the nations of the world seek after these things and your Father knows that you need them.” Close in prayer today by thanking God for all that He has provided for you. Resist the impulse to focus on what you think you need, but rather simply thank Him that He knows what you need.

DAY 3

Pray: John 16:33 “I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart, I have overcome the world.” As you pray today, ask God to allow His words to penetrate deeply into your heart, filling you with peace. Praise Him for the victory He promises over the fears of this world.

Memorize: Psalm 46:2. Read aloud the first phrase of this verse several times. Fill in the blanks.
“Therefore _____ though the earth
_____”

Study: Pages 38-40

Pray: Allow the words of Psalm 46:2 to be a prayer of your heart. The earth and the things of this world will give way, but we have no need to fear. We have victory and peace through Christ.

DAY 4

Pray: Psalm 20:7 “Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.” Make this verse a personal prayer and confession today. “Sometimes I trust in _____ and sometimes I trust in _____, but today Father, allow me to trust in you alone.

Memorize: Psalm 46:2. Repeat the first phrase from memory. Read the second phrase and fill in the blanks. “though the _____ be _____ into the _____ of the _____.”

Study: Read the Parable of the Rich Fool from Luke 12:13-21 again.

1. Luke 12:13 – What is the money issue that is presented to Christ in this verse?

2. Luke 12:15 – What heart issue does Jesus identify as the root of this conflict?

3. Covetousness or greed can certainly cause conflict within families, what are some other sinful outcomes of greed that you have observed? _____

4. Why did Jesus warn his listeners to guard themselves against covetousness? (For additional perspective consider also the NASB translation of Luke 12:15 “Not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions.”) _____

5. In verses 16-19 we read about a farmer whose land produced an abundant crop. Count the number of times this rich man uses the words I or my in these verses. What are some observations you can make about this man’s perspective in life? _____

6. What are some fears that may have caused this farmer to respond as he did?

7. What are some assumptions he made about the future? _____

8. According to verse 19 why did this man want to save his abundance?

9. We usually assume that a person who has an abundance of possessions is wise and hard-working, yet in verse 20, God calls this man a fool. Why is this rich man a fool? _____

10. What was he trusting in? _____

11. In closing today think back to Psalm 20:7. What are you trusting in? _____

Pray: Ask God to show you areas of fear that are keeping you from trusting Him completely. Ask Him for the strength to say “I trust in the name of the Lord my God.”

DAY 5

Pray: Luke 12:22 “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing.” As you begin today, meditate on these words of Jesus. We need to hear this as much as the early disciples. Ask God to remove any anxiety you may have about the things of this world. Ask Him for the wisdom to know His will for your life, and the desire to obey His word.

Memorize: Recite Psalm 46: 1-2 out loud.

Study: Read Luke 12:13-21. Following an abundant harvest the prosperous farmer asked himself the question, “What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?”

1. How many times in verses 17-19 does the Rich Fool use the words I, my, & mine? _____
What conclusions can you draw about how this man makes financial decisions? _____

2. Think of the areas of your life that you call “mine” (my house, my time, my clothes, my job....). How would your decision-making process change if you began to regard all of those areas as God’s?

3. Identify any fears that crop up when you consider giving all of “your” life – possessions, abilities, future – to God. _____

4. Read Proverbs 11:24-28. With this passage in mind, imagine that the Rich Fool was not foolish, but rather a wise, prosperous farmer. What could he have done in response to the question, “What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?” _____

5. The Rich Fool made his decisions with only himself in mind. Psalm 14:1 says, “The fool says in his heart, ‘There is no God.’” How do the actions of the rich fool show that this verse is true? _____

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