



The 3 Enemies of Fear

PROVERBS 29:25

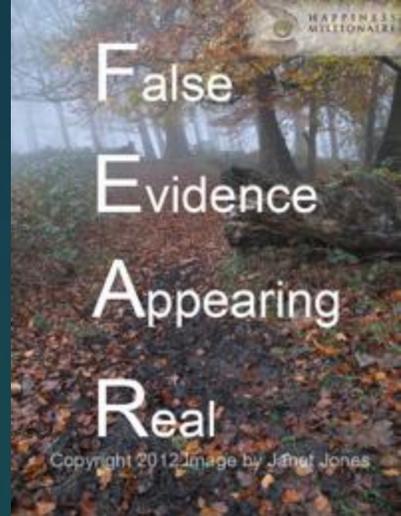
Fear is Normal...But

- ▶ Fear is a **normal** human emotion (ill: snake)
- ▶ However, God does not want us to live in fear (Gen 15:1; 2 Tim 1:7)...But why?
- ▶ “*Fear not*” 33 times “*Be strong and courageous*” 10 times “*do not be dismayed*” 7 times...the list goes on and on
- ▶ This is NOT that fear itself is **sin**, rather God has no desire for us to **prolong** in fear, or be fearful at every turn in our lives

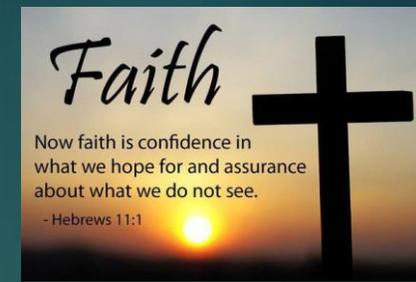


Fear Can Be Dangerous

- ▶ Prov. 29:25—Fear is a **snare**. It traps or stops us from what we need to do or who we need to be
- ▶ Constant fear is not just unhelpful, it can even be a **dangerous** thing (ill: September 11th)
- ▶ We are constantly making wrong decisions because of irrational fears (ill: CNN)
- ▶ Moreover, fear is not of God (Gal. 5:22-23) rather it is an **dishonor** to God who is both with us and in us



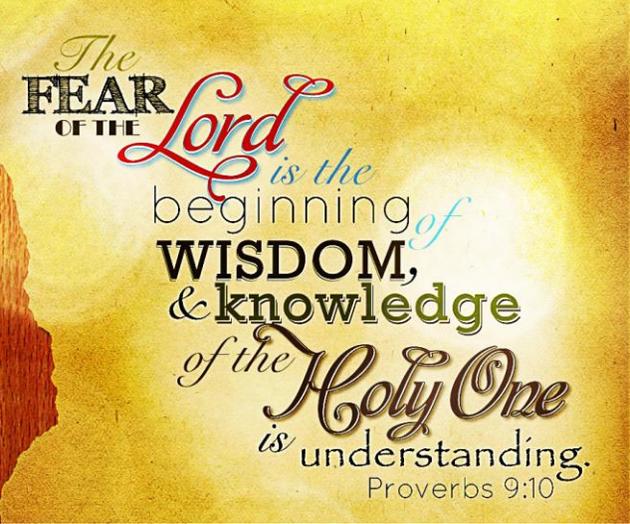
Enemy #1—Faith



- ▶ **Faith** is the first enemy of fear (Prov. 29:25)
- ▶ God does NOT **change**. But our faith does. It is not that God does not watch over us when we are afraid, rather we do not enjoy the character and promises of God if our eyes are not on Him (Psa. 121)
- ▶ (Jos. 1:9) God calls us to be **courageous** because He is **with** us. Do you believe that? (Psalm 27:1)
- ▶ (Phil 4:6-7, Rom 8:32) Have faith in who God is and **give thanks** (not just being positive)

Enemy #2—Knowledge

- ▶ Our faith in God depend on our **knowledge** of who God is (Psalm 119:49)
- ▶ The acknowledgment of God and our knowledge of God goes hand and hand together (Prov. 9:10; 1:7) (also see Matt. 10:28)
- ▶ As we **experienced God** in a specific area of our lives, we will have less fear the next time that challenge comes around—Because we know it now
- ▶ But this apply to more than just our spiritual lives...



- ▶ But this apply to **every area** of life as well (ill: pilot)
- ▶ Knowledge is the enemy of fear. This is not only a spiritual statement, but an factual statement in every aspect of our lives
- ▶ If you ever afraid of anything (or anyone) go **study** the topic as much as possible and you will be pleasantly surprise
- ▶ Buy the guy ahead of you a cup of coffee is the best approach against fear, Dummies Guides are second best (I am not joking)

**KNOWLEDGE
IS POWER**



**DON'T LET YOUR
FEAR OF WHAT
COULD HAPPEN
MAKE NOTHING
HAPPEN.**

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Enemy #3—Love

- ▶ Finally, the greatest enemy of fear is **love** (1 John 4:16-21)
- ▶ (Rom 8:15) The Spirit of Fear is **replaced** with the Spirit of Love (2 Tim. 1:7)
- ▶ Jeremiah could do what he did because he loved his people...so can you (ill: dating, parents)
- ▶ As you experience God and appreciate him, you will have more **courage** to love others (v.19-21)

