

Finding and Navigating The Narrow Way

Lesson 2 – **NO FEAR!**

INTRODUCTION

When you picture God in your mind, what thoughts come to mind? Love or Fear? We speak of John 3:16 and the love of God, we call for the love of God, yet we secretly hold on to fear. We become afraid to experience the delight and joy of the Spirit and hold back because we don't fully grasp the goodness, grace, and mercy of God. We hold on to a vision of a punishing God who looks for the tiniest of flaws so as to pour out His wrath upon us. In this, we do need to understand, that God does punish sin and His wrath is upon the wicked. Yet, in the same thought, the fear of God is a beautiful thing, when we also come to tremble at His goodness because we have come to know His grace.

SCRIPTURES FOR THIS LESSON

1Jn 4:15-19 Whosoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. We love because he first loved us.

John 17:3 And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

Psa 34:8 Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

Psa 103:10-13 He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.

Psa 111:10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!

Rom 8:15-17 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

Rom 8:38,39 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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AFFIRMATIONS

- God is infinitely good, far more loving, gentle and kind to His children than any earthly mother or father imaginable.
- God is infinitely complete – there is NOTHING that can threaten or disturb Him. There is NOTHING that can be taken from Him so as to make him less than complete, nor added to Him because He is already complete and needs nothing.
- WE – YOU are made in the likeness and glory of God the Father. We are finite, yet in God through Jesus, we are in and have complete union with our Father and our Father with us. In this relationship, we ARE risen in Him, seated in heavenly places and there is NOTHING that can separate us from the love of God.
- Before you can know WHO you are, you must come to know WHO God is!

QUESTIONS FOR THIS LESSON

Name a point in time in your life, when you knew that the Father is good and loves you

What is a practical moment in your life when you have “tasted” and seen that the Father is good, full of grace and mercy to those who love Him? _____

Why “taste?” _____

How is God, our Heavenly Father different from our earthly fathers? _____

What does 1 Jn.4:18 mean to you? _____

How does complete love cast out fear? _____
