

FEAR ITSELF

FEAR OF GOD – GENESIS 22:9–14

Message Reflection Guide

“Fear of the Lord” is to have a “healthy respect, honor and reverence” for who God is. Look at what His name teaches you about who He is:

EL SHADDAI—God Almighty, God All Sufficient, JEHOVAH-JIREH—The Lord will provide
JEHOVAH-ROPHE—The Lord who heals.

It's not just head knowledge of who He is that will cause you to fear the Lord more than anything else; it's a deep and intimate knowing.

Psalms 40:4 says, “Blessed (...to be envied) is the man who makes the Lord his refuge and trust, and turns not to the proud or to followers of false gods,” Anything you fear more than God has become a false god to you because you are saying, “my fears are bigger than my God.” When you have a “fear of the Lord” you are placing God back on the throne where he belongs and giving Him the honor and reverence He deserves. – Bayside Ministries

CONVERSATION STARTER

Abraham and Isaac took a step of faith because they feared the Lord. Share a story about a time you took a step of faith. What emotions did you feel in the process?

GETTING INTO THE SCRIPTURES

Read Genesis 22:9-14

Pastor Jason said: “There is a direct correlation between our fear of God and our ability to partner with Him.” In what ways would a lack of fear of God interfere with our ability to serve Him?

We need to follow Jesus through thick and thin. What is the benefit of staying faithful to Christ when life is good or bad? Describe a time in life that was challenging and you were unsure of where God was or what He was doing.

We need to represent Jesus without shame. How has fear of man caused you to hide your faith? Share a time where you overcame that fear and shared your faith.

We need to applaud Jesus and His greatness. The greatness of God is all around us, what causes us to neglect applauding (worshipping, thanking, praising) Him?

Prayer moment: as a group take time to praise and thank God out loud.

CHALLENGE

Which of the following aspects of fear of God is hardest for you; following, representing or applauding? In what ways do you fear man more than you fear God? What step of courage or faith can you take this week to show that you fear God?