

# God Is Speaking to Your Fears

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## Introduction

- millions today are dealing with fear and anxiety, General Anxiety Disorder, Social Anxiety Disorder, Major Depressive Disorder, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder — fear, panic, uneasiness

## Fear plays a foundational role in mankind's existence — beginning in the Garden...

- fear is one of the worst byproducts of the fall of mankind
- fear wounded us at the level of our spiritual DNA
- “*Fear is man’s default setting, faith is man’s choice.*”
- after rebelling, disobeying, eating fruit...
  - **Genesis 3:9-10**  
Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, “Where are you?” So he said, “I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself.”
- **FACT — Fear is the result of believing you are naked, uncovered, unprotected, unloved, exposed, vulnerable etc., producing separation from God — fear set itself in our spiritual DNA at the fall.**
- **God’s response** — so interesting...
  - **Genesis 3:11**  
And He said, “Who told you that you were naked?”
- **FACT — someone, other than God, exploited Adam’s sin, telling him he was naked, uncovered, unprotected, unloved, etc. It was the Serpent, Satan — he’s been instilling fear in mankind, in so many ways, ever since... too many listen—too often!**
- **SO IMPORTANT — GOD COVERED ADAM AND EVE’S NAKEDNESS, SHOWING HIS REDEMPTIVE LOVE, AND COMBATTING SATANIC FEAR (VERSE 21) SETTLE THAT!**
- **FACT — When fear is present, God is there to combat it, speak to it, and defeat it!**
  - **2 Timothy 1:7**  
For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.
    - power to defeat, love to secure, sound mind to compose

## More fearful situations where God spoke, fear died, and destiny happened...

- **Joseph**
  - **Matthew 1:20**  
But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.”

- **Mary**
  - **Luke 1:30**  
Then the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.”
- **Shepherds**
  - **Luke 2:10**  
Then the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people.”

**IMPORTANT OBSERVATION** — fear can be present when God is getting ready to do something amazing, supernatural, and miraculous in and for our lives — *the enemy’s goal is to abort — through lies that you are naked, uncovered, alone, unable — but — hear God speak!*

## Historical list of fear’s presence

- **Moses — to Israel and Joshua — before entering the miraculous Promised Land**
  - **Deuteronomy 31:6-8**  
“Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the LORD your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you.” Then Moses called Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, “Be strong and of good courage, for you must go with this people to the land which the LORD has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall cause them to inherit it. And the LORD, He is the One who goes before you. He will be with you, He will not leave you nor forsake you; do not fear nor be dismayed.”
- **God to Joshua with new leadership role**
  - **Joshua 1:1, 5-6,9**  
After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, it came to pass that the LORD spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses’ assistant, saying... “No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life; as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you. Be strong and of good courage, for to this people you shall divide as an inheritance the land which I swore to their fathers to give them... Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”
- **FACT — in both instances, God is speaking to their fear, “be strong, courageous, don’t be afraid, don’t be dismayed, I’m with you, I got you, enter into what I have for you!”**

**Next** — *these next two stories in the New Testament illustrate fear’s presence trying to create hopelessness — and yet Jesus’ voice is present to combat the fear, and produce faith, so a miracle can happen...*

- **Jairus**, ruler of synagogue, whose daughter’s on the brink of death, seeks Jesus, He goes; Woman with issue of blood delays journey; messengers come...
  - **Mark 5:35-36**  
While He was still speaking, some came from the ruler of the synagogue’s house who said, “Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?” As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, He said to the ruler of the synagogue, “Do not be afraid; only believe.”

- **FACT** — there are competing voices, battling for your belief — Satan's voice of death, hopelessness and fear — and Jesus' voice of NO FEAR, FAITH!
- **CONCLUSION** — Jairus heard Jesus, believed His word, daughter healed, received his miracle!

Whether its words or circumstances,  
fear is present to try to abort the miraculous in your life...

- **Disciples**
  - in boat on sea, rowing, straining, wind blowing, waves crashing, Jesus walks by...
  - **Mark 6:49-50**  
And when they saw Him walking on the sea, they supposed it was a ghost, and cried out; for they all saw Him and were troubled. But immediately He talked with them and said to them, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid."
- **Application** — they saw Jesus walking on water, cried out, screamed, troubled, fearful... **immediately Jesus spoke** to them in their fear, "**Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid.**" Take courage, I'm here, do not be afraid — the storm stopped!

## Jesus is speaking to our fears

**Whether word or waves** — sickness or storms, dismay or death — Jesus is speaking to our fears — above and beyond our fallen default. He's saying, "Don't be afraid, believe Me, be strong and courageous, I'm right here, it's Me, don't be afraid, I've got something wonderful for you."

- **I'm convinced of three things this morning...**
  - When God is wanting to do something amazing with you, the enemy comes with fear — to paralyze and prevent you from experiencing the miraculous.
  - If we'll listen beyond our fallen default, the voice of fear — we'll hear Jesus say, "Don't be afraid, believe Me, I'm here, I've got something wonderful for you."
  - Your faith cannot be in him who told you that you are naked  
*Your faith has to be in Him who said you are covered*
  - Your faith cannot be in him who told you to be afraid  
*Your faith has to be in Him who said "don't be afraid"*
  - Your faith cannot be in him who told you that you are rejected  
*Your faith has to be in Him who said you are accepted*
  - Your faith cannot be in him who told you that you are forsaken  
*Your faith has to be in Him who said you are favored*
  - Your faith cannot be in him who told you that you are alone  
*Your faith has to be in Him who said "I'll never leave you"*
  - Your faith cannot be in him who told you that you are helpless  
*Your faith has to be in Him who said "I am your Helper"*

- Your faith cannot be in him who told you that you're unable  
*Your faith has to be in Him who said "I am willing"*

**In 2018, when fear is present, I'm choosing to believe  
God is about to do something amazing.  
I'm going to listen for His voice, saying,  
"Don't fear, only believe."**

### **GOD IS SPEAKING TO YOUR FEARS — HEAR HIM!**

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#### **Discussion Questions**

1. Have you ever experienced real fear or anxiety, or do you know someone who has?
2. Do you understand how fear set itself in our spiritual DNA in the garden at the fall?
3. Discuss how God was redemptive, and not accusatory, from the very beginning.
4. Can you feel fear, even if you know you are following God (Moses/Joshua)?  
Have you ever had this kind of fear, the kind that produces faith?
5. Why is it easier to default to fear, than to have faith?
6. Which of Jesus' "believe in Me because..." gives you the most comfort?