

Sermon Title: From Fear to Faith

Sermon Series: Fear Not

Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25, Psalm 56

Speaker: Brad Bush



Matthew 1:18-25

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. 19 And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. 20 But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” 22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: 23 “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us). 24 When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, 25 but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

How can we trust God with our fears?

Two ways God speaks to us:

- By working our life circumstances
- Through the Bible

We fear the loss of our own _____ over our lives.

Fear isolates us, twists our thoughts, influences our choices

Psalm 56:1-2

Be gracious to me, O God, for man tramples on me; all day long an attacker oppresses me; 2 my enemies trample on me all day long, for many attack me proudly.

Psalm 56:5-7

5 All day long they injure my cause; all their thoughts are against me for evil. 6 They stir up strife, they lurk; they watch my steps, as they have waited for my life. 7 For their crime will they escape? In wrath cast down the peoples, O God!

Psalm 56:3-4

When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. 4 In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?

Psalm 56:10-11

In God, whose word I praise, in the Lord, whose word I praise, 11 in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can man do to me?

Romans 8:35-39

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? 36 As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 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.

The question is not:

HOW can we trust God?

The question is:

WHY can we trust God?

BECAUSE OF WHO GOD IS!

Faith is never about us or how we do it, it is about _____ we are putting our faith IN.

WHY can we trust God?

1. God is faithful. We can trust in God's promises.

Psalm 56:10-11

In God, whose word I praise, in the Lord, whose word I praise, 11 in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can man do to me?

Deuteronomy 31:8

It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; He will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.

Isaiah 41:10

Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid, for I am your God. I will help you; I will hold on to you with my righteous right hand.

Joshua 1:9

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding; in all your ways know him, and he will make your paths straight.

WHY can we trust God?

2. God knows us and He loves us.

Psalm 56:8-9

You keep track of all my sorrows. You have collected all my tears in your bottle. You have recorded each one in your book. 9 My enemies will retreat when I call to you for help. This I know: God is on my side!

John 8:12

“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

John 9:5

“While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

John 12:46

“I have come as Light into the world, so that everyone who believes in Me will not remain in darkness.”

1 John 1:5

“God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.”

John 1:5

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

1 John 1:7

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

Psalm 139:12

...even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.

Psalm 27:1

The Lord is my light and my salvation — whom shall I fear?

Luke 11:34

Your eye is the lamp of your body. When your eyes are healthy, your whole body also is full of light. But when they are unhealthy, your body also is full of darkness.

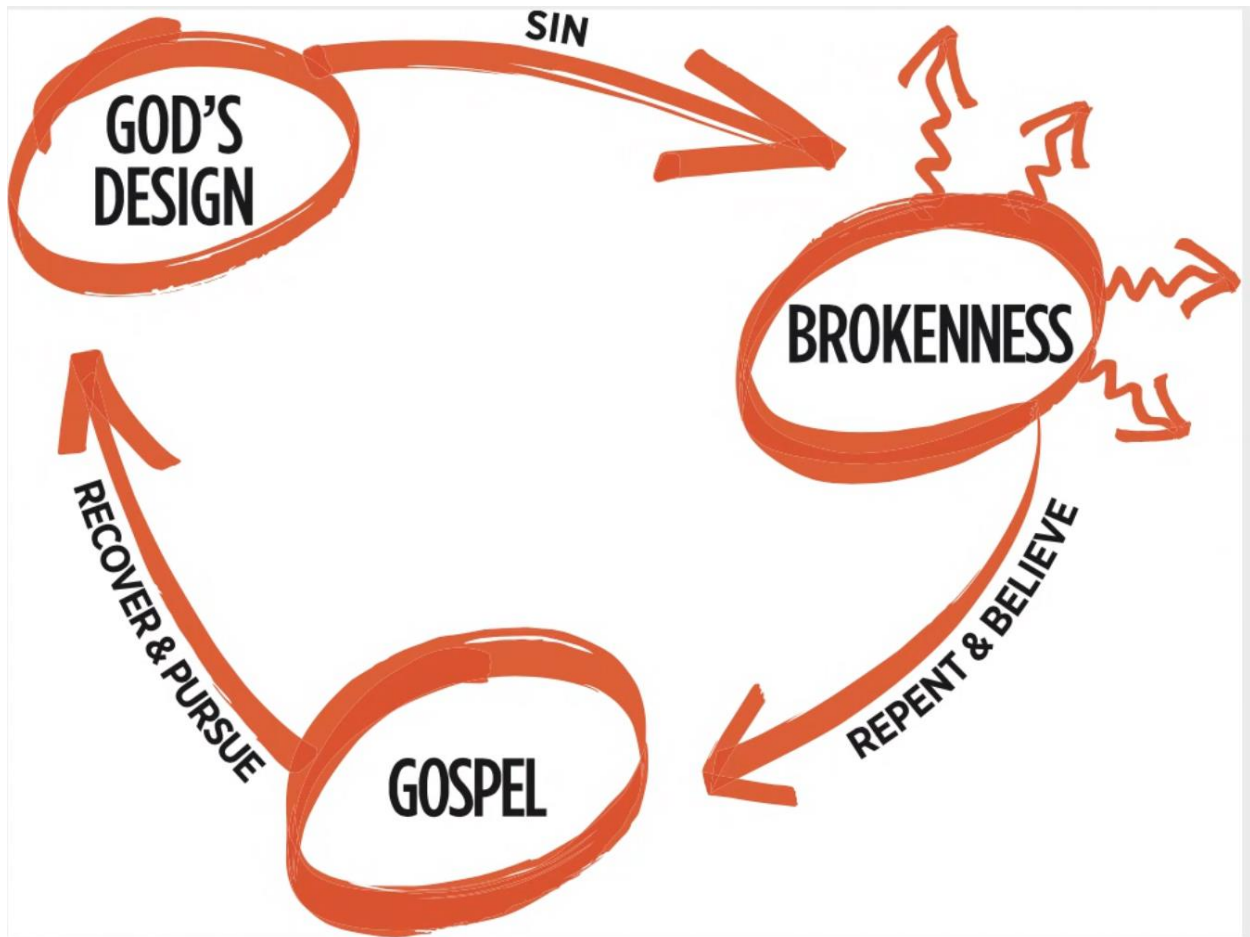
Hope destroys fear!

Psalm 56:12-13

12 I must perform my vows to you, O God; I will render thank offerings to you.
13 For you have delivered my soul from death, yes, my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of life.

WHY can we trust God?

3. Because of the HOPE we have in Jesus!



We have NOTHING to fear!

We can trust God's promises.

We can trust that God loves us.

We can move from FEAR TO FAITH because of Jesus!