

Sermon Title: Fear Him

Sermon Series: Fear Not

Scripture: Luke 1:5-25, Luke 12:4-7

Speaker: Pastor Ian Bonthron



Event Belief Feeling Actions

**Who or what do we _____ most and what does that
_____ us to do?**

Luke 1:5 ESV

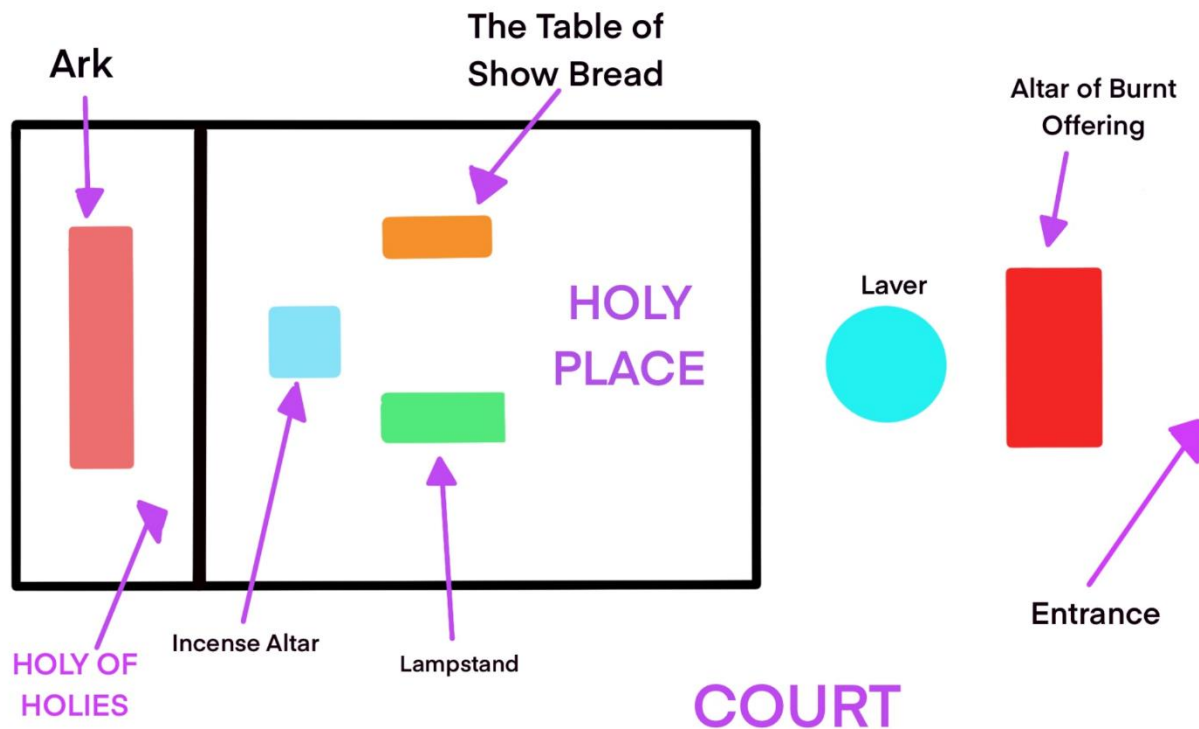
5 In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, of the division of Abijah. And he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth.

Luke 1:6-7 ESV

6 And they were both righteous before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord. 7 But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years.

Luke 1:8-10 ESV

8 Now while he was serving as priest before God when his division was on duty, 9 according to the custom of the priesthood, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense. 10 And the whole multitude of the people were praying outside at the hour of incense.



Luke 1:11-12 ESV

11 And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. 12 And Zechariah was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell upon him.

Luke 1:13-17 ESV

13 But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. 14 And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, 15 for he will be great before the Lord. And he must not drink wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother’s womb. 16 And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, 17 and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared.”

Event Belief Feeling Actions

Luke 1:18 ESV

18 And Zechariah said to the angel, “How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years.”

Luke 1:19-20 ESV

19 And the angel answered him, “I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. 20 And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time.”

What we _____ leads to what we _____ and _____.

Luke 1:21-25 ESV

21 And the people were waiting for Zechariah, and they were wondering at his delay in the temple. 22 And when he came out, he was unable to speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the temple. And he kept making signs to them and remained mute. 23 And when his time of service was ended, he went to his home.

24 After these days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she kept herself hidden, saying, 25 “Thus the Lord has done for me in the days when he looked on me, to take away my reproach among people.”

Luke 12:4-7 ESV

4 “I tell you, my friends, do not fear those who kill the body, and after that have nothing more that they can do. 5 But I will warn you whom to fear: fear him who, after he has killed, has authority to cast into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him! 6 Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? And not one of them is forgotten before God. 7 Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows.

**The Fear of God does not cause us to run _____ him, but
_____ him!**

1 John 4:10, 18-19 ESV

10 In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins... 18 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. 19 We love because he first loved us.

**The Fear of God does not cause us to run _____ him, but
_____ him!**

Luke 1:62-66 ESV

62 And they made signs to his father, inquiring what he wanted him to be called. 63 And he asked for a writing tablet and wrote, "His name is John." And they all wondered. 64 And immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue loosed, and he spoke, blessing God. 65 And fear came on all their neighbors. And all these things were talked about through all the hill country of Judea, 66 and all who heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying, "What then will this child be?" For the hand of the Lord was with him.

John 1:29 ESV

29 The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

Fearing _____ causes us to _____ to him!

Discussion Questions:

1. Describe a time where an animal or insect caused you fear or made you do an irrational action.

2. We typically have events in our life that form beliefs, that drive our feelings, that dictate our actions. What are some of the beliefs you've had that have driven your fears?

3. Have you ever had a situation where you feared someone or something more than God? Why do you think you feared those things more than God?

4. Read Luke 12:4-7

Luke 12:4-7 ESV – 4 “I tell you, my friends, do not fear those who kill the body, and after that have nothing more that they can do. 5 But I will warn you whom to fear: fear him who, after he has killed, has authority to cast into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him! 6 Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? And not one of them is forgotten before God. 7 Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows.

a. What was something from the passage or sermon that surprised you, helped you, confused you, or bothered you?

b. What does this passage tell us about God? People? Living to please God?

5. The fear of God does not cause us to run from him, but to him. How might this truth change how you approach God this week?

6. Read 1 John 4:10,18-19, Romans 8:1, 31-39 -

1 John 4:10, 18-19 ESV – 10 In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins...

18 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. 19 We love because he first loved us.

Romans 8:1, 31-39 ESV – 8 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus...

31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? 33 Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. 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.

- a. How can we be confident that we don't have to fear the judgment of God?
- b. What do these verses tell you about God's Character?
- c. What is a situation where you find it hard to love others?

7. What are some truths about God that remind us we can run to him? Are there any Bible verses that can remind us of them?

8. The purpose of John being born was to point people to Jesus. What fears get in the way of you sharing Jesus with others?

9. How can this group pray for you this week?