

DIFFUSING THE FEARS THAT RUIN MY RELATIONSHIPS

REBOOT Pt 6 Pastor Craig Coulter

HOW OUR FEARS RUIN RELATIONSHIPS

1. The FEAR of EXPOSURE – makes me DISTANT.

God called to Adam, "Why are you <u>hiding</u>?" Adam said, "<u>I was afraid because I</u> was naked; so I hid." (Genesis 3:9-10 LB/TEV)

2. The FEAR of DISAPPROVAL – makes me <u>DEFENSIVE</u>.

God asked, "Did you eat ... what I told you not to eat?" Adam answered, "<u>YOU</u> gave me this woman and <u>SHE</u> gave me the fruit!" (Genesis 3:12 GNT)

Then Eve said, "The <u>SNAKE</u> tricked me into eating!" (Genesis 3:13 TEV)

3. The FEAR of LOSING CONTROL – makes me <u>DEMANDING</u>.

... You'll have yearning for your husband, but he will <u>lord it over</u> you... (Genesis 3:16 NJB)

THE ANTIDOTE: Learn to live in God's love.

Wherever God's love is, there is <u>no fear</u>, because God's perfect love <u>drives out</u> all fear. (1 John 4:18a NCV)

LEARNING TO LIVE IN GOD'S LOVE

1. EVERYDAY I SURRENDER - MY HEART TO GOD.

<u>Surrender your heart to God</u>, turn to him in prayer, and give up your sins— even those you do in secret. Then you <u>won't be ashamed</u>; you will be <u>confident and</u> <u>fearless</u>. your troubles will go away like water beneath a bridge, and your darkest night will be brighter than noon. Then you'll rest safe and secure, filled with hope and emptied of worry! (Job 11:13-18 CEV)

2. EVERYDAY I REMEMBER - THE WAY GOD LOVES ME.

• I'm completely <u>accepted</u>.

Jesus made us acceptable to God. (Titus 3:7 CEV)

• I'm unconditionally *loved*.

My love for you will never end says the Lord. (Isaiah 54:10)

• I'm totally <u>forgiven</u>.

There is NO condemnation for those in Christ Jesus! (Romans 8:1)

3. EVERYDAY I OFFER - THAT SAME LOVE TO OTHERS.

I'm giving you a new commandment to love each other. Love each other in the same way I loved you. (John 13:34)

Love never stops being patient, Love never stops believing, Love never stops hoping, Love never gives up! (1 Corinthians 13:7 GW)