

# FEARLESS

## Embracing A Courageous Faith

Week 6: Fearless Under Fire by Pastor Brian Flewelling

March 13, 2016

### **Starter Questions:** [10 min]

“How do you plan to enjoy this coming summer?”

“What is one way that you feel this group has helped you to grow over the last six weeks?”

### **Discussion Questions:** [60 min]

1. In *The Fearless Life*, Jentezen Franklin writes, “Where do you go to feel safe?”
  - ? – What do you tend to resort to in order to escape the pressure, anxiety, or antagonism in life?
  - ? – When you retreat to those things is it healthy or not? Why?
  - ? – When we are under pressure, anxiety, or attack, what does it look like to run to God and find refuge and protection in Him?
2. **Read Acts 6:8-15; 7:51-60**
  - ? – Often, persecution is the result of deceit. Christians are misrepresented or maligned. How do you see this happening in this passage? And how have you seen this happening in our society?
  - ? – Stephen maintained his dignity through the slander. How can we maintain our dignity and integrity through slander and animosity?
  - ? – How do you feel like reacting when you are misrepresented, misunderstood, or mislabeled?
  - ? – Put yourself in this story. Imagine you’re a believer watching all this happen in front of you. What are you feeling? Are you encouraged? Frightened? Emboldened? Resolved? Grieving?
  - ? – How do you think Stephen was feeling?
3. Have you ever been ridiculed or antagonized or even threatened for your faith?
  - ? – What happened and how did it make you feel?
  - ? – Where did you find God in that situation?
  - ? – Do you find it hard to forgive people who treat you like this?
  - ? – How would you want the believers around you to react to your adversity?
4. On Sunday Pastor Brian said something very interesting. “When we are persecuted, we often focus on what we lose. But there is always something to gain.”
  - ? – What have you gained through adversity?
  - ? – Did you find any opportunities for God to do good things through that situation?
5. Break into groups of 4-5’s. Ask if there’s something the group can pray for that person. Then after your prayer for that person declare these truths over each person.

## **Declarations:** [5 min]

Declare these truths over the person you are praying for.  
Personalize the prayer by filling in the name of the person in the blank.

### **DECLARATION:**

    (ie. Jane)    

The Lord is with you, he will never leave you (Joshua 1:5).

You are a mighty warrior. (Judges 6:12)

He is making you as bold as a lion. (Proverbs 28:1)

Be strong and courageous. (Deuteronomy 31:6)

The battle is not yours,     (name)     but the Lords. (1 Samuel 17:47)

He will not leave you in the midst of battle. (Deuteronomy 31:6)

But through him you will be victorious. (1 Corinthians 15:57)

He is your refuge and fortress. (Psalm 91:2)

He will be your shield and defender when the enemy attacks you. (Psalm 18:2)

He is your strength and source of life. (Isaiah 12:2)

When you are afflicted He rescues you. (Jeremiah 20:13)

When you are brokenhearted, He heals you and binds up your wounds. (Psalms 147:3)

But through him you will be victorious. (1 Corinthians 15:57)

You will be dressed in white, and your name     (name)     will be found in the book of life, and Jesus will acknowledge you before Father God and all the angels. (Revelation 3:5)

And the enemies you see now you will never see again. (Exodus 14:13)