

# **FREEDOM FROM YOUR FEARS**

Ryland Walter | July 15-16, 2023

Week 2: Fear of The Unknown

Yours, Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, Lord, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all.

1 Chronicles 29:11 (NIV)

God's sovereignty is God being \_\_\_\_\_

- Over Nature (Psalm 148:8; Isaiah 45:12)
- Over History (Acts 15:18; Isaiah 14:26-27; Isaiah 46:10-11)
- Over Nations (Daniel 4:17; Romans 13:1)
- Over Our Lives: Examples...
  - When you were born & where (Acts 17:26)
  - How long you will live (Job 14:5)
  - What natural talents you have (Ex. 31:1-3; 1 Peter 4:10)

For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. Colossians 1:13-14 (NIV)

Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. John 12:31 (NIV)

## **Because God is Being God**

1. MY PLANS \_\_\_\_\_

You can make many plans,  
but the Lord's purpose will prevail. Proverbs 19:21 (NLT)

My Response: \_\_\_\_\_

2. MY PROBLEMS \_\_\_\_\_

All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by his great mercy that we have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Now we live with great expectation, <sup>4</sup> and we have a priceless inheritance—an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay. <sup>5</sup> And through your faith, God is protecting you by his power until you receive this salvation, which is ready to be revealed on the last day for all to see.

<sup>6</sup> So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. <sup>7</sup> These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.

<sup>8</sup> You love him even though you have never seen him. Though you do not see him now, you trust him; and you rejoice with a glorious, inexpressible joy. <sup>9</sup> The reward for trusting him will be the salvation of your souls. 1 Peter 1:3-9 (NLT)

My Response: \_\_\_\_\_  
(2 Corinthians 4:17-18)

3. MY FUTURE \_\_\_\_\_

Hear the word that the Lord speaks to you, O Israel!

<sup>2</sup> This is what the Lord says: "Do not act like the other nations, who try to read their future in the stars.

Do not be afraid of their predictions,  
even though other nations are terrified by them.

<sup>3</sup> Their ways are futile and foolish.

They cut down a tree, and a craftsman carves an idol.

<sup>4</sup> They decorate it with gold and silver  
and then fasten it securely with hammer and nails  
so it won't fall over.

<sup>5</sup> Their gods are like  
helpless scarecrows in a cucumber field!

They cannot speak,  
and they need to be carried because they cannot walk.

Do not be afraid of such gods,  
for they can neither harm you nor do you any good."

<sup>6</sup> Lord, there is no one like you!

For you are great, and your name is full of power.  
Jeremiah 10:1-6 (NLT)

My Response: Fill in the future with faith  
because God is being \_\_\_\_\_

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now the prince of this world will be driven out. John 12:31 (NIV)

## **Because God is Being God**

### 1. MY PLANS HAVE A LIMIT

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but the Lord's purpose will prevail. Proverbs 19:21 (NLT)

My Response: Cooperate with God

### 2. MY PROBLEMS HAVE A PURPOSE

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My Response: Look past the pain

(2 Corinthians 4:17-18)

### 3. MY FUTURE CAN BE FILLED IN WITH FAITH

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My Response: Fill in the future with faith  
because God is being God



# FREEDOM

FROM YOUR FEARS

## FEAR OF THE UNKNOWN

Talk-it-Over Notes | July 15-16, 2023

### REVIEW IT

So much of life is unknown. Since we can't control it, we can find ourselves fearing our unknown future. But, there is one who does know. God knows. He is sovereign. He created nature and sustains nature. He is in control of history, nations, the spiritual realm, and our lives. Because God is being God I have the opportunity to cooperate with Him, look past the pain and problems of life and fill in the unknown future with faith! I don't need to fear other gods or other people or plans because they are scarecrows. They have no real power other than fear.

**Spend some time in the word: Read 1 Peter chapter 1**

### TALK ABOUT IT

1. Look over the ways that he is sovereign, what stands out to you there?
2. Because God is being God, my plans have a limit. Our response can be to cooperate with God. How does knowing our plans have a limit comfort you in the unknowns?
3. Because God is being God, my problems have a purpose. Read 2 Corinthians 4:17-18. What does it look like to look past the pain have eyes set on eternity?

### ACT ON IT

Because God is being God, I can fill in the future with faith. Read Jeremiah chapter 10. How does the scarecrow analogy help you walk into the future? What fear do you need to recognize as a scarecrow? No real power other than fear.

### PRAY ABOUT IT

Ask how you can pray for a support one another this week and then close in prayer.