

SG

Your group matters.

DISCUSSION GUIDE

- Icebreaker -

Who is a person from your past which you would like to be compared with, and why?
(If you're still able, tell them this week!)

1. What steps towards exercising forgiveness have you taken this week?
2. Pastor Tom shared how fear is something we all deal with and shared several quotes to illustrate that. But then he tells us what Jesus said more than any other statement: "Don't be afraid." What are some of the fears Jesus has helped you overcome in the past?
3. Jesus overcomes huge fears and circumstances in the lives of people in [Matthew 8:3-6, 13b-16, 22-33](#). After reading these passages, what are you experiencing that seems too much, even for Jesus?
4. Pastor Tom shared why fear so often wedges its way into our lives. Which of these are your reality right now, and how can we as a group help each other replace fear with faith? (Read through point 3 and its passages as you process this question.)
5. Read [1 John 4:16, 18a](#) and ask the Holy Spirit to drive out whatever you are fearing and replace that with the peace of His presence.

Day One: [Mark 1](#)

Day Two: [Genesis 29](#)

Day Three: [1 Corinthians 13](#)

Day Four: [1 Peter 2](#)

Day Five: [Job 29](#)

This Personal Guide has been adapted from Professor Grant Horner's Bible Reading System.

PERSONAL GUIDE



RIVERSIDE CHURCH



Your story matters.

PASTOR TOM LUNDEEN

JULY 17, 2022

SCARY ROADS



MYRC.CHURCH



“SCARY ROADS”

Pastor Tom Lundeen

MESSAGE NOTES

The reality is that every _____ person...is driven by something.
_____ = to guide, control, direct.

Note [Matthew 8:24-26a](#)

Whether we admit it/show it or not, fear is the consistent,
_____ companion of human beings.

What makes fear such a _____ and all-encompassing force in
our lives?

1. Fear Has Long and Numerous _____

Fear doesn't _____; it knows no boundaries of time or place.
(Hoselton)

The list of fears is _____ and impacts everyone in some way.
Fear is so commonplace that it _____ its way into all parts of life.

*Fear..._____ out [our] insides, until [our] resistance and strength
are spent and [we] suddenly break down. Fear secretly gnaws and eats away
at all the ties that bind a person to God and to others, and when in a time of
need that person reaches for those ties and _____ to them, they break
and the individual sinks back into himself or herself, helpless and despairing.*
(Bonhoeffer)

*Fear pollutes our thinking, distorts our judgment, _____ our
resistance to evil, dislodges our love, and casts a gloom over our hearts.*
(Hoselton)

In the 4 Gospels, the statement Jesus makes more than any other
(_____ times) = *Don't be afraid.*

2. Why Jesus _____ Fear

Note [Matthew 8:3-6](#)

Note [Matthew 8:13b-16](#)

Note [Matthew 8:22-33](#)

No matter what form fear took, or how _____ the fears
appeared to be, fear was no match for Jesus' presence, power, Word, and life.
Despite this reality, in this same chapter, Jesus' closest friends/followers
would be _____ by fear.

3. So Why Does Fear Often _____ Its Way Into Our Lives?

- A. It's easier to trust Jesus for other people's _____ than
our own - fear seems less fearful when someone else has to face it
_____.
- B. Fear rarely gives us time to _____ (note [Matthew 8:23-24a](#)).
- C. Fear is _____ when we realize we're not in control
(note [Matthew 8:24](#)).
- D. Fear makes us think God doesn't care/is _____ (note
[Matthew 8:24b](#)).
- E. We _____ trust/faith with fear (note [Matthew 8:26a](#)) - we
don't need _____ when life is easy, but when life is hard.

WHAT'S DRIVING ME?:

- So has fear wedged its way into your life and is driving you down one
_____ road after another?
- Jesus is _____ than you think.
- Note [1John 4:16, 18a](#)
- Invite the Prince of Peace and the _____ of perfect
love into your life to bring His peace into your life...

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your
spiritual journey! Let us know, too, and fill out our connect card
(digital or hard copy).

*[MyRC.link/connect](#) or text **riverside** to **94000**



SMALL GROUP
guide on the back



"SCARY ROADS"

Pastor Tom Lundeen

MESSAGE NOTES

The reality is that every single person...is driven by something.

Drive = to guide, control, direct.

Note [Matthew 8:24-26a](#)

Whether we admit it/show it or not, fear is the consistent, unwanted companion of human beings.

What makes fear such a driving and all-encompassing force in our lives?

1. Fear Has Long and Numerous Tentacles

Fear doesn't discriminate; it knows no boundaries of time or place.

(Hoselton)

The list of fears is long and impacts everyone in some way.

Fear is so commonplace that it wedges its way into all parts of life.

Fear...hollows out [our] insides, until [our] resistance and strength are spent and [we] suddenly break down. Fear secretly gnaws and eats away at all the ties that bind a person to God and to others, and when in a time of need that person reaches for those ties and clings to them, they break and the individual sinks back into himself or herself, helpless and despairing. (Bonhoeffer)

Fear pollutes our thinking, distorts our judgment, cripples our resistance to evil, dislodges our love, and casts a gloom over our hearts. (Hoselton)

In the 4 Gospels, the statement Jesus makes more than any other (21 times)

= *Don't be afraid.*

2. Why Jesus Trounces Fear

Note [Matthew 8:3-6](#)

Note [Matthew 8:13b-16](#)

Note [Matthew 8:22-33](#)

No matter what form fear took, or how impressive the fears appeared to be, fear was no match for Jesus' presence, power, Word, and life. Despite this reality, in this same chapter, Jesus' closest friends/followers would be overcome by fear.

3. So Why Does Fear Often Wedge Its Way Into Our Lives?

- A. It's easier to trust Jesus for other people's challenges than our own - fear seems less fearful when someone else has to face it directly.
- B. Fear rarely gives us time to prepare (note [Matthew 8:23-24a](#)).
- C. Fear is magnified when we realize we're not in control (note [Matthew 8:24](#)).
- D. Fear makes us think God doesn't care/is disengaged (note [Matthew 8:24b](#)).
- E. We replace trust/faith with fear (note [Matthew 8:26a](#)) - we don't need faith when life is easy, but when life is hard.

WHAT'S DRIVING ME?:

- So has fear wedged its way into your life and is driving you down one scary road after another?
- Jesus is closer than you think.
- Note [1 John 4:16, 18a](#)
- Invite the Prince of Peace and the embodiment of perfect love into your life to bring His peace into your life...

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!

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