

ULC Sermon Study Resource

Fear // Fear of Failure

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Prayer: Pause for a few moments to go to the Lord in prayer. Ask that He would draw near to you in this time, and open your heart and mind to hear His Word.

Icebreaker: What's the clumsiest thing you've ever done?

Reading: Exodus 3:10-17

Outline:

- I. God's Presence
 - a. In the span of 40 year's God morphed Moses to understand what it means to really fear Him and that's called grace
 - b. The glory of God doesn't fill space like water in a glass, but rather it's woven into every particle of our surroundings. He's everywhere at every moment
 - c. Even when God seems silent and subsequently distant, we can trust His character in this
Q: How can focusing on where God is ease the weight of disappointing others?
- II. God's Purpose
 - a. Moses was sent straight back to the place he escaped from to be a leader of God's plans, but didn't do so very willingly because of his fear of failure and impotence
 - b. God's plan wasn't reliant on Moses' capability to do everything perfectly, but rather his ability to put his trust in the being that has a perfect nature
Q: How can the assurance of God's perfection give us confidence to keep trying?
- III. God's Promise
 - a. Abraham, Issac, and Moses were all men who failed and disappointed God and people at times, and yet were still some of the most chosen and used individuals for God's work. He believed in them when they couldn't believe in themselves because of their fears
 - b. Regardless of circumstantial outcomes, God's promises ensure resolution eventually
Q: How can these promises help us whether any storm of doubt or insecurity?

Reflection/Application Questions:

- 1) What do you fear failing at most?
- 2) What areas have you already failed at most?
- 3) How can God use your personal failures to inspire others and yourself?
- 4) Why is God's character a weapon against the fear of failure?
- 5) How can reminding ourselves of the bigger picture ease our suffering from this specific fear?

Suggestions for further study:

- Proverbs 3:5-6 **Q: What is the key to perseverance?**

Closing Prayer:

Father God, we ask for a rush of your presence. Remind us of your constant companionship, and forgive us for the times we deliberately ignore that. Let us stand in awe of your throne and receive from you the comfort that comes from our mortal flesh falling away to reveal your glory. In your name we pray, Amen.