

Christmas at The Chapel

"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."
[Isaiah 41:10]

"But the angel said to him: "Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John."
[Luke 1:13]

"But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God."
[Luke 1:30]

"But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people."
[Luke 2:10]

"terribly frightened" NASB
"filled with great fear" ESV
"sore afraid" KJV

"In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world...And everyone went to their town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child."
[Luke 2:1-5]

How to journey from fear to faith...

1. Don't be afraid, disruptions don't disrupt God

"But you Bethlehem, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for Me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."
[Micah 5:2]

"But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying a manger."

[Luke 2:10-12]

2. Don't be afraid, God does His best work in vulnerability

"When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

[Luke 2:15]

"If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

[Romans 10:9]

"When they had seen Him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them."

[Luke 2:17-18]

3. Don't be afraid, we've been marked by His mission

I want to pay more attention to my purpose than my fear .

"My greatest fear is that I never take a risk in an effort to find my true calling"
Anthony, New York City

"My greatest fear is to go through life living small but not realizing it until it's too late."

Rebekah, Germany

"My greatest fear would be missing out on my purpose here on earth."

Danielle, Sacramento

"My greatest fear would be to go through life without leaving a positive mark."

Lucianna, Central Portugal

"My greatest fear is regretting all that I didn't do as I lay in hospital bed as an elderly man."

Ralph, New Brunswick

SERMON NOTES

"The remarkable thing about fearing God is that when you fear God you fear nothing else. Whereas, when you do not fear God, you fear everything else."
Oswald Chambers