
	<p>Sermon Discussion Guide</p> <p>"YOUR FINANCES AND GOD'S PROVISION" (Freedom From Your Fear – Part 3) August 7, 2022</p> <p>Written by Pastor Scott Underwood</p>	
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ICE BREAKER: What do you fear most about the current financial state of our country?

THIS IS ONLY A GUIDE.

OUR DESIRE IS THAT YOU WOULD USE THIS "GUIDE" TO LEAD YOU INTO DEEPER PERSONAL STUDY.

"I prayed to the LORD, and he answered me. He freed me from all my fears." (Psalm 34:4)

What are you afraid of? My answer to that question has changed a lot over the years.

As a kid I was afraid of the dark. As a young man, I was afraid of failure. As a father, I was afraid for my children. These days, my primary concern is following Jesus and I don't have a lot of fears. I've learned to trust Him, and on most days that's enough to keep fear at bay. But I'm not immune.

As June came to a close, everything was going great. Fear was the furthest thing from my mind. Within the next few days, I got sick and Mom had a massive stroke. Suddenly, I had problems coming out of my ears.

How would I get myself to Florida? Could I drive all night while running a fever and coughing my head off? Should I? Where would I stay? How long would I be gone? And that was the easy stuff.

Eventually I had to deal with scarier questions. Would Mom ever walk or talk or see again? Would she be able to live with me? Did I need to sell my two-story house to accommodate her? Could I get approval to tele-work in Tallahassee while she went through months of rehab? When would I see my wife again?

"I prayed to the LORD, and he answered me. He freed me from all my fears." (Psalm 34:4)

Friends, no one likes the storms in life, but they bring us closer to God. Over and over last month I watched as God took care of everything. Again and again He put my fears to rest. He provided for my every need. Even the ones I didn't know I had.

So what's the secret? Was there some fancy prayer that I prayed? No. Mostly I just asked for help. Most of my prayers weren't much more than, "I trust you Lord. Help us." And He did help us. He'll help you too.

Take your fears to Him today. You don't need to be a pastor or a theologian. You don't need the right words. Just trust Him. "And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:19)

Questions:

1. What's your first reaction when you hit hard times? How often do you ask God for help with your problems?
2. Everything we have is a gift from God. Are you content with the life He's given you? How do you react when disaster takes some of those gifts away?
3. Are you able to trust Him with your finances? Do you find it hard to give faithfully when life turns upside down?
4. Do you trust Him with your whole life? Is there anything in your life that you haven't trusted Him with?

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WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT:

“Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be
enough food in my Temple. If you do,” says the LORD of
Heaven’s Armies, “I will open the windows of heaven for you.
I will pour out a blessing so great you won’t have enough
room to take it in! **Try it! Put me to the test!**”
(Malachi 3:10) [NLT]

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ATTENDANCE:	94
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