



Sermon Discussion Guide
“YOUR INADEQUACY & GOD’S POWER”
(Freedom From Fear – Part 4)
August 14, 2022

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Icebreaker: What is one thing you would attempt for God if you knew you couldn’t fail?

“I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears.” (Psalm 34:4)

“I took my troubles to the LORD; I cried out to him, and he answered my prayer.” (Psalm 120:1)

THIS IS ONLY A GUIDE.

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

When was the last time you felt inadequate? I don’t know about you, but I don’t like the feeling. In fact, I do my best to avoid it when I can. But God doesn’t always let me avoid it.

Today I was thinking back to when I led my first small group Bible study. That was almost 10 years ago. I felt inadequate that night because I absolutely was inadequate. And I reminded God of that fact a whole lot that week.

How was I going to teach the Bible when I hadn’t read the whole thing? How was I going to keep a group discussion on track? What if they asked me questions, I couldn’t answer? What if they shamed me about things I should’ve known?

When the day finally came, I was well past feeling inadequate. By that point I was scared. So scared that all I could do was pray. And boy, did I pray. All day at work. And when I got home, my wife and I prayed until it was time to leave.

Looking back, my message that night was terrible. But it didn’t matter because the Holy Spirit showed up bigtime. Somehow the inadequate little message I gave touched the heart of everyone in the group. One by one they began to share stories and many of them were moved to tears.

I was shocked and amazed and relieved and a whole lot of other adjectives. Mostly I was just glad that it was over. But I learned a valuable lesson that night. Feeling inadequate is a good thing if it reminds me how much I need God.

So, let’s embrace our fears and inadequacies. And let’s never let them stop us from doing God’s will.

“I took my troubles to the LORD; I cried out to him, and he answered my prayer.” (Psalm 120:1)

Questions:

1. God often strengthens and heals us. But our bodies wear out and He doesn’t restore everything that is lost. How do you respond in these situations?
2. Dealing with unreasonable people in a godly way is difficult to say the least. How does God help you?
3. Do you have a picture of God’s amazing love for you? What does it look like?

4. With God all things are possible, but many things look impossible for me? Where do you find the faith to believe that God can do the impossible?

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(Luke 6:38)

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