



Leading People into a Growing
Relationship with Jesus Christ!

Antioch CELEBRATION Message: "Letting Go of Fear"

Sermon Series: "Letting Go"

Dates: January 7-8, 2017

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LEARN about each other!

Sometimes childhood fears can bring a smile to adult faces; not because they were not real, but because our perspective changes as we mature. What is a childhood fear you remember?

LEARN to Let Go of Fear

Fear might be described as the overwhelming feeling of perceived exposure to loss. Because humans chose brokenness (we call this "sin") and God's resulting curse on the world ensured that sin would not exist into eternity, loss is a formidable reality in our world. Yet while FEAR is the natural human response to loss—FAITH is God's invitation to trust Him with our future.

Pastor John said fear will steal your dreams, dampen your passion, challenge your contentment and suck the joy right out of your life. But:

Trust is to be convinced of the reliability of God.

Pastor John suggested we make this personal declaration:

We will let go of fear and unconditionally trust God. No matter what happens in our lives, no matter how daunting the world seems to be around us, no matter what kind of storms are blowing in our lives, our response to fear will always be faith.

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Do you believe you can believe IN God and not believe God? What is the difference, and why does it matter?

What has personally helped you overcome fear in your life?

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Consider how God helps build faith and reject fear:

We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in his love. God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them. And as we live in God, our love grows more perfect. So we will not be afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face him with confidence because we live like Jesus here in this world. Such love has no fear, because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of punishment, and this shows that we have not fully experienced his perfect love. **1 John 4:16-18 (NLT)**

“The brooding pessimism that the good news of God’s love is simply wishful thinking, weaves a thin membrane of distrust that keeps us in a chronic state of anxiety. The heart converted from mistrust to trust in the irreversible forgiveness of Jesus Christ is redeemed from the corrosive power of fear.” Brennan Manning, “Ruthless Trust”

What do you believe God is encouraging you to do/think/feel through these insights?

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Be still, and know that I am God. **Psalm 46:10a**

Pastor John said about this Scripture:

The original Hebrew translation means “lay down your arms.” Let go of your weapons and trying to always take care of yourself, let go and be still, know that I am the reliable Father that you can trust who has nothing but perfect love for you. Perfect love casts out fear.

What does this say about real strength?

Pray!

Pray that God would give you the courage to TRUST Him!