

**Faith Over Fear: 1 of 2**  
**“When Plans Are Disrupted”**  
**Cornerstone Church of Poway**  
**Pastor Ed Turley**  
**December 20, 2020**

**Big Idea:** We can choose to live in fear or stand in faith.

“**Rejoice** in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your **gentleness** be evident to all. **The Lord is near**. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by **prayer and petition**, with **thanksgiving**, present your requests to God. And the **peace of God**, which transcends all understanding, will **guard** your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” **Philippians 4:4-7 (NIV) Remember Verse**

“This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"--which means, "**God with us.**"” **Matthew 1:18-23 (NIV)**

**We Can Choose Faith Over Fear Because:**

**1. Jesus Takes Away Our Guilt And Shame**

“So now there is **no condemnation** for those who **belong** to Christ Jesus. And because you belong to Him, the power of the life-giving **Spirit** has **freed** you from the **power of sin** that leads to death. The law of Moses was unable to save us because of the weakness of our sinful nature. So God did what the law could not do. He sent his own Son in a body like the bodies we sinners have. And in that body God declared an end to sin’s control over us by giving his Son as a **sacrifice** for our sins.” **Romans 8:1-3 (NLT2)**

“He made Him who knew no sin **to be sin** on our behalf, so that we might become the **righteousness** of God in Him.” **2 Corinthians 5:21 (NASB)**

“For His **unfailing love** toward those who fear Him is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth. He has **removed** our sins as far from us as the east is from the west.” **Psalms 103:11-12 (NLT2)**

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

## **2. Jesus Takes Away The Fear Of Death**

“But let me reveal to you a wonderful secret. We will not all die, but we will all be **transformed!** It will happen in a moment, in the blink of an eye, when the last trumpet is blown. For when the trumpet sounds, those who have **died** will be raised to live forever. And we who are **living** will also be **transformed**. For our **dying** bodies must be **transformed** into bodies that will **never die**; our mortal bodies must be **transformed** into immortal bodies. Then, when our dying bodies have been **transformed** into bodies that will never die, this Scripture will be fulfilled: “Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?” For sin is the sting that results in death, and the law gives sin its power. **But thank God!** He gives us **victory** over sin and death through our Lord **Jesus Christ.**”  
**1 Corinthians 15:51-57 (NLT2)**

“I am the **living one**. I **died**, but look—I **am alive forever** and ever! And I hold the keys of death and the grave.” **Revelation 1:18 (NLT2)**

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

## **3. Jesus Is Working Behind The Scene For Our Good**

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” **Romans 8:28 (NIV)**

“What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave Him up for us all--how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things?” **Romans 8:31-32 (NIV)**

“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?” **Romans 8:35 (NIV)**

“For I am **convinced** that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” **Romans 8:38-39 (NIV)**

➤ Am I living in fear or standing in faith?

### **My next right step, I will:**

- [ ] Read this week’s “Talk It Over” and journal down my personal application
- [ ] Trust Jesus to remove all of my guilt and shame
- [ ] Accept God’s gift of salvation
- [ ] Invite someone to Christmas Eve 4:00 or 6:00 pm

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**Family Corner:** [Choose one day this week to ask questions to go deeper in faith as a family. Try this over dinner. Keep it to 12 minutes or less.]

**Make a family memory:**

Take a ride in the car and look at Christmas lights.

Bake some Christmas sugar cookies and give them to your neighbors.

**Small Groups:** [Choose as many questions that honors your group’s time commitment]

**Open in Prayer:**

➤ What thoughts from this week’s message encourages me to live a life for Jesus?

**Icebreaker:**

Share about a favorite Christmas ornament.

What is your favorite Christmas decoration?

**Big Idea:** We can choose to live in fear or stand in faith.

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, **Mighty God**, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” **Isaiah 9:6-7 (NIV)**

**We Can Choose Faith Over Fear Because:**

**1. Jesus Takes Away Our Guilt And Shame**

**Read Romans 8:1-3**

What does it mean to be condemned?

Using these verses, how would you explain the Gospel to someone who feels they are not good enough for God?

**2 Corinthians 5:21**

For us to be right with God, what did Jesus have to do?

Could you imagine taking the weight of the whole world’s sin?

**Psalm 103:11-12**

What do we learn about God's love?

**2. Jesus Takes Away The Fear Of Death  
Romans 6:5-11**

What do we learn about why Jesus died?

What should be our response to this?

**1 Corinthians 15:51-57**

What stands out in this passage?

How should we respond?

**Revelation 1:18**

What promise can we claim from this verse?

**3. Jesus Is Working Behind The Scene For Our Good  
Hebrews 7:23-25**

How is Jesus different than any other priest?

What promise can we claim from this verse?

**Titus 2:11-14**

What do we learn about salvation?

What should be our response?

What do we learn about Jesus?

**Close in Prayer:** Start praying. Be bold and pray specifically.