

# I WILL FEAR NO EVIL;

*For you are with me,  
Your rod and your staff, they  
comfort me.*

psalm 23

*Yea, though I walk through the  
valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil;  
For you are with me,  
Your rod and your staff, they  
comfort me.*

*You prepare a table before me in the*

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Connect Notes - 20 July 2015

## PSALM 23 SERIES: I WILL FEAR NO EVIL

- Ps Phil Pringle

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil;*

*For You are with me;*

*Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.*

**Psalm 23v4 (all references NKJV)**

The Bible commonly exalts you and I to "fear not", it mentions it 365 times.

- Why? Because we are often subject to fear. Fear is something we need to continue to address, as the ability to be afraid is what makes us sane.
- The ability to not let fear paralyse you comes from scripture and from God. The reason we don't fear according to David is because God is with us.
- When you're walking around with the un-conquerable Jesus beside you there is no need for fear.

Importantly, it says "as I walk through..."

- Remember that it is something we walk through, don't stop in the valley.
- There are times of struggles but these are seasons. They only become permanent if we stop. If you keep walking, you will get through it.

We have been saved for a purpose and our trials are God building strength, ability and character in us.

- God can't build on talent, God only builds on character.

## Isaiah 43v1-2

- There is a difference between being created and being formed.
- Jacob was born "Jacob" but in his struggle with God, in the wrestle he was formed and then renamed Isaiah.
- These are the promises of scripture, that we will not be burned despite the fire, that we will not drown despite the waters.
- The reason you will survive? God will be present.
- What does this mean? It means that in your difficulty, you praise. In spite of my difficulty I will

praise.

*For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.*

### **2 Timothy 1v7**

The devil brings all fear, but perfect love casts out all fear!

- A spirit of timidity is that of one who has been intimidated. But God has not come to intimidate or coerce us, but rather to justify you and make everything right.
- The devil is the one who takes courage away, Jesus in stills courage in us. When you have fear, you mind is unsound. But when you have God you are free from fear and your mind becomes sound.

When David declared those words, "though I walk through the valley..." He knew what that meant. He knew what it was to be intimidated, taunted and coerced. Goliath tormented, intimidated and bullied the entire army of Israel for 40 days.

### **1 Samuel 17v28**

- Here we see that not only Goliath was intimidating them, but David was also subject to the intimidation of his brothers and his king.
- But it was David's boldness that won the King, who gave over the entire future of the nation over to a child.

### **1 Samuel 17v44-45**

- The third intimidation was when he went down to meet his enemy, who mocked him. But David was completely undeterred.
- For when God is with us have a spirit of boldness. It's not just about just not being afraid - it's about being bold.
  - David didn't just knock him down, he cut off his head. David had the boldness to finish the job.

God doesn't always just change our circumstances, no - he gives us the capacity and the boldness to confront these circumstances. He gives us the power to change our circumstances, the boldness to succeed.

*The wicked flee when no one pursues,  
But the righteous are bold as a lion.*

### **Proverbs 28v1**

*in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.*

### **Ephesians 3v12**

For the bold are conquerors and in Christ we have boldness - not just for a moment for all time. We must step into something if we want it to happen.

*Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marvelled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus.*

### **Acts 4v13**

The boldest person who walked this earth was Jesus Christ.

- When they saw Peter and John, who were untrained, they saw that they had been with Jesus.
- No victory will come from our sincerity, but from our boldness. Find that place where bravery replaces timidity.

Jesus has given us the power to change our circumstances and boldness to succeed.

**TALK ABOUT**

\* How does fear manifest in our lives?

\* Why does Paul say: "for God has not given us a spirit of fear?"

\* What would boldness grab for you in your life? What has God got for you to rich out and grab in boldness?