



(SLIDE #1) “WHEN FLOODED BY FEARS!”

Introduction:

- A. Life Brings SO MANY Emotions -- On The One Hand, Joys; On The Other Hand, Fears, Also Discouragements.

- B. After Highs, Lows Can Crash Upon Us!
 - 1. David’s gigantic victory of Goliath, I Sa. 17, followed by Saul’s jealousy and constant attempts to kill him! I Sa. 18-26
 - 2. Elijah’s colossal victory on Mt. Carmel, I Ki. 18, followed by Jezebel’s threat and Elijah’s discouragement and fear! I Ki. 26
 - 3. Israel, with great anticipation, was on the move toward Canaan, “The Promised Land;” their bubble of anticipation was burst when the 10 faithless spies said, “We can’t do this! They are too powerful for us!” Nu. 13:28-33; 14:1-5

- C. Many Of You Have Recently, In Fact Even This Very Week, Have Been Flooded With Fear!

- D. Consider Circumstances That Bring Floods Of Fear!
 - 1. Some may be caused by a psychosis -- a person may need medication or therapy.
 - 2. Some may be caused by a fearful event in childhood or later in life -- a person may need some therapy to work through the negative impacts of that situation.
 - 3. In today’s lesson we are not addressing fears that we may need therapy or medication -- fears that we cannot resolve ourselves. We are addressing fears that we can address with God’s help!

I. (Slide #2) When Facing Life Situations That Induce Fear!

- A. When Facing A Dangerous, Even Deadly Situation!

1. When Israel faced the daunting enemy, Goliath!
 - a. I Sa. 17:24 “And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him and were dreadfully afraid.”
 - b. When David came to visit his brothers in the Israelite army, they were terrified when Goliath came out to challenge them!

2. When God called Gideon to be a Judge, many of Israel’s soldiers were terrified!
 - a. Ju. 7:3 “Now therefore, proclaim in the hearing of the people, saying, ‘Whoever *is* fearful and afraid, let him turn and depart at once from Mount Gilead.’ And twenty-two thousand of the people returned, and ten thousand remained.”
 - b. When Gideon led his army against the Midianites, God 22,000 of his 32,000 army were terrified; they were sent home!

- B. When Facing A Disheartening Situation:
 1. Just after the great victory at Jericho, Israel became disheartened by the defeat at Ai.
 2. Of course, they did not know about Achan’s sin and God’s anger that there was “sin in the camp.”
 3. Josh. 7:5 “And the men of Ai struck down about thirty-six men, for they chased them *from* before the gate as far as Shebarim, and struck them down on the descent; therefore the hearts of the people melted and became like water.”

- C. When Facing Natural Disasters!
 1. The Lord and the disciples were in a boat on the Sea of Galilee.
 - a. Mt. 8:23-26 “Now when He got into a boat, His disciples followed Him. ²⁴And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves. But He was asleep. ²⁵Then His disciples came to *Him* and awoke Him, saying, ‘Lord, save us! We are perishing!’ ²⁶But He said to them, ‘Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?’ Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm.”
 - b. A fierce, raging squall instantly destroyed their calm and brought terror to them!
 - c. This is when Peter exclaimed, “Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?” Mk. 4:38
 2. It may be a tsunami, earthquake, hurricane, or tornado.
 3. We can be terrified!

II. (Slide #3) When You Face A Person Or Task That Scares You!

- A. Moses When Called By God, Fear Reared Its Ugly Head. Ex. 3,4
1. "I am a NOBODY!" -- "Who *am* I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" 3:11
 2. "How will I convince the Israelites to submit to my leadership?" 3:13
 3. "I am not a speaker!" 4:10
- B. When You Are Afraid Of People's Reactions To You.
1. Abraham, twice, would not identify Sarah as his wife!
 - a. Gen. 12:11-19
 - b. Gen. 20:2-12
 - c. He was afraid that kings would desire his wife, kill him, and take her as their wife.
 2. The parents of the blind man in John 9.
 - a. Jesus healed this blind man; the Pharisees claim that the one who healed him could not have been from God because He healed the blind man on the Sabbath Day.
 - b. When the Pharisees did not believe the blind man, they questioned his parents.
 - c. Because of fear, they refused to answer.
 - d. Jn. 9:20-23 "His parents answered them and said, 'We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but by what means he now sees we do not know, or who opened his eyes we do not know. He is of age; ask him. He will speak for himself.' ²²His parents said these *things* because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had agreed already that if anyone confessed *that He was* Christ, he would be put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, 'He is of age; ask him.'"
 3. Peter in denying the Lord!
 - a. As Jesus prophesied, Peter denied the Lord three times! Mt. 26:69-74, Mk. 14:66-72, Lk. 22:54-60, Jn. 18:16,17,25,27
 - b. Alone, and among those who hated Jesus, he was terrified to admit who he was!
 4. Pilate when condemning Jesus.
 - a. Pilate KNEW that Jesus was not deserving of being crucified!
 - b. Jn. 19:12-16 "From then on Pilate sought to release Him, but the Jews cried out, saying, 'If you let this Man go, you are not Caesar's friend. Whoever makes himself a king speaks against Caesar.' ¹³When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus out and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called *The Pavement*, but in Hebrew, Gabbatha. ¹⁴Now it was the Preparation Day of the Passover, and about the sixth hour. And he said to the Jews, 'Behold your King!' ¹⁵But they

cried out, ‘Away with *Him*, away with *Him!* Crucify Him!’ Pilate said to them, ‘Shall I crucify your King?’ The chief priests answered, ‘We have no king but Caesar!’ ¹⁶Then he delivered Him to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus and led *Him* away.”

- C. When We Are Afraid To Stand Up For Truth!
 - 1. Often we worry how someone will respond when we tell them the Truth.
 - 2. We may become quiet; we may not tell people God’s Truths because we worry that they will reject us or the Message we give them.

III. (Slide #4) When You Fear For Your Children!

- A. David for Absalom.
 - 1. Absalom stole the hearts of the people of Israel, revolted against David, and ran David out of Jerusalem.
 - 2. Later David’s captain, Joab, killed Absalom as he hung from the forks of a tree.
 - 3. David had been terrified for his son; he agonized when he heard of Absalom’s death.
 - a. II Sa. 18:33 “Then the king was deeply moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept. And as he went, he said thus: ‘O my son Absalom--my son, my son Absalom--if only I had died in your place! O Absalom my son, my son!’”
 - b. II Sa. 19:4 “But the king covered his face, and the king cried out with a loud voice, ‘O my son Absalom! O Absalom, my son, my son!’”
- B. Some Of You Have Had These Fears This Week.
- C. Parents AGONIZE For Children Who Seem To Have No Heart For God, For Children Who Become Immersed In The Alcohol Or Drug Culture, Who Have Emotional Struggles, Or Who May Express Disinterest In Life Or Even Attempt To Take Their Life!

IV. (Slide #5) When You Face An Event About Which You Feel Uncertain!

- A. Surgery!
 - 1. Subconsciously we realize that being “put under” can be dangerous.

2. Others may have had the same surgery -- however, when you are having surgery, this is about YOU!
 - a. It may be cataract surgery.
 - b. Heart catheterizations.
 - c. Open heart surgery.
- B. It May Be A New Job And You Have Great Doubts About Yourself, If You Can Do It, Will You Relate Well With New Co-Employees, And What The Pitfalls Might Be.

V. (Slide #6) When An Illness Or Disease Attacks You Or A Loved One!

- A. You May Have A Terrifying Medical Event:
1. You may be having a heart attack.
 2. You may have a stroke-like event -- a TIA.
- B. Your Mate Or Loved One May Receive A Diagnosis A Medical Event!
1. Cancer
 2. TIA
 3. Heart Attack
 4. Alzheimer's and Parkinson's
- C. Biblical Examples Of Concern For Family Illnesses:
1. Jairus -- His daughter was about to die. Imagine the fear!
 - a. Mk. 5:20-22 "And behold, one of the rulers of the synagogue came, Jairus by name. And when he saw Him, he fell at His feet ²³and begged Him earnestly, saying, 'My little daughter lies at the point of death. Come and lay Your hands on her, that she may be healed, and she will live.'"
 - b. This is the time when the woman with the issue of blood interrupted the trip to Jairus' house!
 1. Mk. 5:25,26 "Now a certain woman had a flow of blood for twelve years, ²⁶and had suffered many things from many physicians. She had spent all that she had and was no better, but rather grew worse."

2. “Now a woman, having a flow of blood for twelve years, who had spent all her livelihood on physicians and could not be healed by any, ⁴⁴came from behind and touched the border of His garment. And immediately her flow of blood stopped. ⁴⁵And Jesus said, ‘Who touched Me?’ When all denied it, Peter and those with him said, ‘Master, the multitudes throng and press You, and You say, ‘Who touched Me?’ ⁴⁶But Jesus said, ‘Somebody touched Me, for I perceived power going out from Me.’ ⁴⁷Now when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling; and falling down before Him, she declared to Him in the presence of all the people the reason she had touched Him and how she was healed immediately. ⁴⁸And He said to her, ‘Daughter, be of good cheer; your faith has made you well. Go in peace.’” Lk. 8:43-48
 3. Mt. 9:20-22 “And suddenly, a woman who had a flow of blood for twelve years came from behind and touched the hem of His garment. ²¹For she said to herself, ‘If only I may touch His garment, I shall be made well.’ ²² But Jesus turned around, and when He saw her He said, ‘Be of good cheer, daughter; your faith has made you well.’ And the woman was made well from that hour.”
 4. This woman has a continual flow of blood for twelve years; she LONGED for help! Likely weakness, loss of weight, and frustration overwhelmed her.
 5. She had spent all of her money going from physician to physician trying to get an answer!
 - c. Imagine the frustration of Jairus, impatiently waiting for Jesus to get to his house to heal his daughter because he feared she would die; she did die before they get to the house!
2. The lame man at the pool of Bethesda. Jn. 5:1-9
 - a. There was a legend that the first one in the water when it swirled would be healed.
 - b. This thirty-eight year old man LONGED to be the first and to be healed.
 - c. Jn. 5:1-9 “After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ²Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep *Gate* a pool, which is called in Hebrew, Bethesda, having five porches. ³In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. ⁴For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had. ⁵Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. ⁶When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been *in that condition* a long time, He said to him, “Do you want to be made well?” ⁷The sick man answered Him, ‘Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me.’ ⁸Jesus said to him, ‘Rise, take up your bed and walk.’

⁹And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked. And that day was the Sabbath.”

- d. Jesus healed him!
3. The Syrophenician woman’s concern for her demon-possessed daughter.
 - a. Mt. 15:21-28 “Then Jesus went out from there and departed to the region of Tyre and Sidon. ²²And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, ‘Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed.’ ²³But He answered her not a word. And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, ‘Send her away, for she cries out after us.’ ²⁴But He answered and said, ‘I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.’ ²⁵Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, Lord, help me! ²⁶But He answered and said, ‘It is not good to take the children’s bread and throw *it* to the little dogs.’ ²⁷And she said, ‘Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters’ table.’ ²⁸Then Jesus answered and said to her, ‘O woman, great *is* your faith! Let it be to you as you desire.’ And her daughter was healed from that very hour.”
 - b. This woman would not allow rejection to keep her from begging for help for her daughter.
 - c. She would endure humiliation and even rejection; she was determined to find an answer for her daughter!
 4. The father of the demon-possessed epileptic.
 - a. Mt. 17:14-21 “And when they had come to the multitude, a man came to Him, kneeling down to Him and saying, ¹⁵‘Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and suffers severely; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water. ¹⁶So I brought him to Your disciples, but they could not cure him.’ ¹⁷Then Jesus answered and said, ‘O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him here to Me.’ ¹⁸And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him; and the child was cured from that very hour. ¹⁹Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, ‘Why could we not cast it out?’ ²⁰So Jesus said to them, ‘Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. ²¹However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.”
 - b. This demon literally tried to kill the boy by burning him or drowning him.
 - c. This father begged for Jesus to help his son!

VI. (Slide #7) When A Loved One Dies!

A. The Widow Of Nain Son's Died.

1. Lk. 7:11-17 "Now it happened, the day after, *that* He went into a city called Nain; and many of His disciples went with Him, and a large crowd. ¹²And when He came near the gate of the city, behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother; and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the city was with her. ¹³When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, 'Do not weep.' ¹⁴Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried *him* stood still. And He said, 'Young man, I say to you, arise.' ¹⁵So he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother. ¹⁶Then fear came upon all, and they glorified God, saying, 'A great prophet has risen up among us'; and, 'God has visited His people.' ¹⁷And this report about Him went throughout all Judea and all the surrounding region."
2. Jesus raised this widow's only son and restored meaning to her life!

B. Lazarus' Sisters:

1. How Jesus loved Martha and Mary!
2. When Lazarus became ill, they reached out to Jesus who was east of Perea -
- "Therefore the sisters sent to Him, saying, 'Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick.'" Jn. 11:3
3. When Jesus arrived at Bethany, the sisters expressed their longings and fears to Jesus:
 - a. Jn. 11:21 "Then Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died.'"
 - b. Jn. 11:32,33 "Then, when Mary came where Jesus was, and saw Him, she fell down at His feet, saying to Him, 'Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died.' ³³Therefore, when Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her weeping, He groaned in the spirit and was troubled."

C. Some Of You Have Recently Lost Loved Ones!

1. It may be a mother; it may be a brother!
2. If your mate dies, you can feel SO ALONE and wonder how you can proceed in life!

VII.(Slide #8) When You Face Fears:

A. (▶) Turn To The Lord!

1. Ps. 55:22 “Cast your burden on the LORD, And He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved.”
2. Phil. 4:12,13 “I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. ¹³I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”
3. Do not just lean upon yourself and your own strength!

B. (▶) Trust God!

1. Moses had so many fears when called to lead Israel.
2. God’s response:
 - a. “I will certainly be with you. And this shall be a sign to you that I have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.” 12
 - b. God’s message: “Trust Me! I will be with you!”
3. Trust Him no matter HOW BIG the fear is!
4. “He Is Able To Deliver Thee!”

C. (▶) Rely Upon His Providence!

1. “God Will Take Care Of You!”
2. God, take care of me even when I cannot see how this can end!
3. You never know when providentially someone may be the answer for your child’s struggles or for your loved one’s disease!

D. (▶) Let Your Faith Kick In!

1. When you first get a diagnosis, when you first learn of a terrible bad event, fear rears its ugly head!
2. And fear can be debilitating!
3. However, there is a calmness that arrives when “faith kicks in!”

- E. **(Slide #9) Allow Your Brethren To Support And Strengthen You!**
 - 1. Use those around you to give you strength!
 - 2. Let your brethren love, encourage, and strengthen you!
 - 3. When Moses has so many excuses, God said, “Here is Aaron, he will be your spokesman!” Ex. 4:14-17

- F. **(▶) NEVER Be Ashamed To Own Your Lord!**
 - 1. “I’m Not Ashamed To Own My Lord!”
 - 2. When you tell people the Truth and they become upset, “They have not rejected YOU, but they have rejected ME!”
 - a. Israel demanded a king so they could be like the nations around them.
 - b. Samuel became distraught.
 - c. God told Samuel this is I Sa. 8:7
 - 3. “Stand Up, Stand Up For Jesus!”

- G. **(▶) Seek The Calmness That God Brings.**
 - 1. Ac. 16:27 “And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself.”
 - 2. Facing situations alone can be terrifying!
 - 3. With God, we have a peace that brings peace and joy! Ac. 16:34

- H. **(▶) Let Hope Be Your Anchor Amidst The Flood Of Fears!**

VIII.Back To The Points Of The Lesson And Those Who Overcame The Fear!

- A. Fear Of Situations -- Be A David!

- B. Scary Tasks -- Be An Abraham: “God Will Provide!”

- C. Fear For Children -- Be A David: He Prayed For His Sick Baby Until It Died; Then, “I Cannot Bring Him Back To Me, But I Can Go To Him!”

- D. Life Situations That Cause Fear -- “I Can Do All Things Through Christ Who Strengthens Me!” Phil. 4:13
- E. Illnesses -- “For to me, to live *is* Christ, and to die *is* gain.” Phil. 1:21 And II Tim. 4:8 “there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day!”
- F. Death Of A Loved One -- As Martha And Mary Understood: “Martha said to Him, ‘I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.’” Jn. 11:24

(Slide #10) Conclusion:

- A. Do Fears Hinder You From Obeying The Lord?
- B. Examples?
 - 1. What will my family or friends think?
 - 2. What will my present religious leaders think?
 - a. This can hinder people from obeying the Lord.
 - b. Jn. 12:42,43 “Nevertheless even among the rulers many believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess *Him*, lest they should be put out of the synagogue; ⁴³for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.”
 - 3. Fear of water?
- C. Let Faith Lead You To Be Determined To Be Obedient!!
- D. Don’t Let ANY Fear Hinder You From Obeying The Lord, From Being Saved, And From Having Hope Of Heaven!