



Sermon Series: What Keeps You Up at Night? - Fear of Death.

Big Idea: Big Idea: A life in Christ - no fear in death.

Main Passage: Psalm 4:8

In peace I will lie down and sleep,
for you alone, O LORD, will keep me safe.

Three Assurances of Salvation:

- (In Christ) Death is not final (Romans 8:11)
- (In Christ) Death is not to be feared (Philippians 1:21)
- (In Christ) Death does not separate us from the love of God (Romans 8:38-39)

Discussion:

What?

What insights or observations did you learn from this weekend's message? What did you find helpful, eye opening, or troubling?

The big idea for this message was, "A life in Christ means no fear in death." There are at least three ways we fear death: The death of things as you know it: When you may not give death much thought at all but often you're afraid to pursue big hairy things Jesus asks you because you're not sure the trade-off is worth sacrificing the comforts of this life. The death of your legacy: When you might fear that what you've done in this life hasn't been enough for your children or grandchildren. The death of your physical body: Perhaps there is a very real fear of what's on the other side of our present reality. How have you experienced one of these fears of death?

Read the passages that coincide with the assurances of salvation from the top of the guide. Which one is a comfort to you and why?

Read John 10:7-10. Jesus is describing his role as the great shepherd and the gate through which people enter into the life of Christ. Inside this passage he makes a promise to all who enter through him and states what being a part of his flock is supposed to be like. What is the promise and purpose?

So What?

What does a saved and full life look like?

Because of the work of Jesus, we can move past self-preservation and survival to living a life full of joy free from anxiety and fear. We are not talking about abandoning healthy lifestyles because scripture elsewhere commands it (1 Cor. 6:20). But we are talking about that pull through your chest that keeps you stationary when the Holy Spirit is asking you to move. Describe a time that you have overcome that pull and what it was that motivated you to persevere.

What part does the assurance of salvation play in overcoming fears?

Do What?

What is one fear you have right now that you need to overcome? (Pray over these answers).

How can you focus on the assurance of salvation as a motivator to keep going?

What is some thing you can do this week to help you with your fear?

Scriptures for further study or memorization:

Use these as a reference to help when you see Jesus as the only source of salvation and move past any fear of the world because of his free gift to all.

1 John 5:12-13

¹² Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have God's Son does not have life.

John 5:24

²⁴ "I tell you the truth, those who listen to my message and believe in God who sent me have eternal life. They will never be condemned for their sins, but they have already passed from death into life.

Romans 6:23

²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Hebrews 2:14-15

¹⁴ Because God's children are human beings—made of flesh and blood—the Son also became flesh and blood. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the devil, who had the power of death. ¹⁵ Only in this way could he set free all who have lived their lives as slaves to the fear of dying.

John 11:25-26

²⁵ Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying."

1 Timothy 4:10

¹⁰ That is why we labor and strive, because we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all people, and especially of those who believe.

1 Corinthians 15:54-56.

⁵⁴ When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come to pass: "Death has been swallowed up in victory."

⁵⁵ "Where, O death, is your victory?
Where, O death, is your sting?"

⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the Law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!