

Welcome to Fearless Living!

Fear is one of the enemy's oldest and most effective strategies. From the opening pages of Genesis, the serpent has sought to distort God's Word, question God's goodness, and convince people that life can be found apart from Him. Those same lies continue to shape hearts today.

Fear whispers that we are alone, unloved, unworthy, or that God cannot be trusted. But the Gospel tells a different story.

Our church is on a discovery that fearless living is not about becoming tougher, pretending life is easy, or never experiencing anxiety.

Fearless living is the natural result of knowing who God is, knowing who we are in Christ, and walking daily in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Each day is designed to help you take one step closer to Jesus.

You are on a journey of grace. Allow these devotionals to shape your heart.

As you trust the Father's Word, rest in His goodness, surrender to His ways, and walk in His Spirit.

Find a City Group to go deeper through study. These gatherings strengthen our Church, deepen relationships, and raise up men and women who live boldly for the glory of Christ.

Let's become a church that knows the Father's voice, trusts the Father's heart, walks in the Father's ways, and lives every day in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Love.Serve.Go.

Ronnie

Until All Have Heard

Sermon 1 - Fearless Living

All the Voices in My Head

Genesis 3:1–7 | Matthew 4:1–11 | 2 Timothy 3:16-17 | Proverbs 28:1

Sermon 1 Notes

CITY GROUP LEADER GUIDE: Week 1 Fearless Living
All the Voices in My Head
Fear Grows Wherever God's Truth Becomes Uncertain

1. Welcome & Check-In

2. Opening Prayer

3. Scripture Reading: Genesis 3:1–7 | Matthew 4:1–11 | 2 Timothy 3:16-17 | Proverbs 28:1

4. Observation & Reflection

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about people?

Is there a sin to avoid, a command to obey, a promise to claim, or an example to follow?

5. Personal Obedience – Application & Mission

“Because resurrection is true, this week I will _____ as an act of obedience to Jesus.”

6. Reinforcement Scriptures

Use these during the week for prayer or reflection:

Psalm 119:105 | John 10:27 | Romans 12:2

7. Closing Prayer & Requests

8. Rhythms for Spiritual Formation (Practice for the Week)

- Daily Scripture
- Five minutes of silence before prayer
- Memorize Proverbs 28:1
- Pray for one person who needs Christ

FEARLESS LIVING: Week 1- All the Voices in My Head

Fear grows wherever God's truth becomes uncertain

"The righteous are bold as a lion."

Monday September 7: Whose Voice Are You Listening To?

Focus Scripture: Genesis 3:1; John 10:27

Reflection

Every day we are surrounded by voices. The voice of culture tells us to follow our hearts. The voice of fear reminds us of our failures. The voice of shame tells us we'll never be enough. Social media tells us to compare. Our past tells us we're disqualified. Our future whispers worst-case scenarios. Long before Adam and Eve reached for the forbidden fruit, they listened to the wrong voice.

The serpent never forced Eve to sin. He simply introduced another voice into the conversation. One question—"Did God really say?"—was enough to create uncertainty. Once God's voice became uncertain, fear began to grow.

The same battle continues today. Fear rarely begins with circumstances. It usually begins with a question that causes us to doubt what God has already spoken.

Jesus reminds us that His sheep know His voice (John 10:27). The more time we spend with Him, the easier it becomes to recognize truth when lies appear.

Before you can live boldly, you must learn to listen carefully.

Today, ask yourself one simple question:

Which voice am I believing?

Application

Take ten uninterrupted minutes today to read Scripture before opening social media, email, or the news. Allow God's voice to be the loudest voice you hear today.

Prayer

Father, thank You that You still speak. Help me recognize Your voice above every competing voice around me. Quiet the lies, the fear, and the confusion. Teach me to trust what You have already said. Amen.

Challenge

Write down one lie you've been believing lately. Then find one Scripture that speaks God's truth over that lie.

Tuesday September 8: Did God Really Say?

Focus Scripture: Genesis 3:1-3

Reflection

The serpent's first weapon wasn't power—it was persuasion.

He didn't begin by denying God. He simply questioned Him.

"Did God really say?"

Notice how subtle the temptation was. Satan didn't immediately invite Eve into rebellion. He first invited her into uncertainty.

That strategy hasn't changed.

"Did God really forgive you?"

"Did God really call you?"

"Did God really mean what Scripture says?"

When God's Word becomes uncertain, everything else begins to shift.

Jesus faced the exact same strategy in the wilderness. Yet every temptation was answered with one phrase:

"It is written."

Jesus didn't argue. He didn't negotiate. He stood on what His Father had already spoken.

The enemy still attacks Scripture because he knows confidence in God's Word produces courage.

Application

Choose one verse this week to memorize. Let God's Word become your first response instead of your emotions.

Prayer

Lord, help me become rooted in Your Word. Build my confidence on what You have spoken rather than what I feel. Amen.

Challenge

Carry your memory verse with you today. Read it every time fear begins to surface.

Wednesday September 9: Fear Begins with a Question

Focus Scripture: Matthew 4:3-4

Reflection

Fear often disguises itself as curiosity.

"What if I fail?"

"What if God doesn't come through?"

"What if I'm not enough?"

Most fears begin with "What if..."

Faith begins with "God said."

Jesus teaches us that our greatest defense isn't greater confidence in ourselves—it's greater confidence in God's promises.

The wilderness reveals something beautiful.

The devil questioned Jesus' identity.

"If You are the Son of God..."

But Jesus didn't need to prove who He was because His Father had already declared it.

When you know who you are in Christ, you stop chasing approval.

You stop performing.

You stop striving.

Identity silences insecurity.

Application

Replace one "What if..." thought today with one promise from Scripture.

Prayer

Jesus, remind me that my identity is secure in You. Help me live from Your acceptance instead of striving for it. Amen.

Challenge

Every time you catch yourself saying "What if...", stop and say aloud:

"But God has said..."

Thursday September 10: It Is Written

Focus Scripture: 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Reflection

The greatest weapon against fear is truth.

When Jesus was tempted, He responded three times with the same phrase:

"It is written."

He trusted God's Word more than His circumstances.

Sometimes we wait until we're in crisis before opening our Bible.

Jesus had already hidden God's Word in His heart before the wilderness ever came.

Preparation always precedes victory.

God never intended Scripture to be something we occasionally read.

It is daily bread.

Daily strength.

Daily direction.

When God's truth fills our hearts, fear has less room to grow.

Application

Begin reading one chapter of Scripture each day before checking your phone.

Prayer

Father, create in me a hunger for Your Word. Let Scripture become my foundation, my comfort, and my guide. Amen.

Challenge

Underline one verse today that speaks directly to your current season.

Friday September 11: Replacing Lies with Truth

Focus Scripture: Romans 12:2

Reflection

The Christian life isn't simply about avoiding sin.

It is about renewing the mind.

Every lie the enemy tells must eventually be replaced with God's truth.

Perhaps you've believed:

"I'm alone."

"I'm not enough."

"I'll never change."

"I'm too broken."

The Gospel answers every one of those lies.

You are never alone.

You are deeply loved.

You are being transformed.

You are a new creation.

Fear loses its grip when truth takes root.

The more we meditate on who God is and what He says about us, the more fearless we become.

Boldness isn't pretending fear doesn't exist.

Boldness is choosing to believe God anyway.

Application

Write down three truths God says about you from Scripture and read them throughout the day.

Prayer

Father, renew my mind. Replace every lie with Your truth. Help me see myself the way You see me. Amen.

Challenge

Share one truth you've learned this week with someone else.

Saturday September 12: RPMS Weekly Check-In

Hearing the Father's Voice

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me." — John 10:27

This week we've discovered that fearless living begins by learning to recognize the Father's voice above every other voice.

Spend a few quiet moments with the Lord as you reflect.

Relational

- Did I encourage someone this week?
- Did fear keep me from an important conversation?
- Is there someone I need to forgive, encourage, or invite?

Physical

- Did I steward my body well this week?
- Was I rested enough to hear God's voice clearly?
- Did stress or exhaustion make fear louder?

Mental

- What lie surfaced most often this week?
- What truth from Scripture replaced it?
- Which voice did I listen to most?

Spiritual

- Did I spend intentional time in God's Word?
- Did I hear the Father's voice this week?
- Where did I see God growing my faith?

Weekly Reflection

Finish these statements:

- This week God reminded me...
- Fear tried to convince me...
- God's truth declared...
- Next week I want to grow by...

Closing Prayer

Father,

Thank You for speaking through Your Word. Thank You that Your voice is trustworthy, Your promises are true, and Your love never fails. Help me become someone who recognizes Your voice quickly and follows You faithfully. As I move into another week, let fear lose its influence because Your truth has taken deeper root in my heart.

Make me bold—not because life is easy, but because I know my Shepherd.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Today's Declaration

I will not believe the voice of fear.

I will trust the Father's Word.

I will trust the Father's heart.

I will walk in the Father's ways.

I belong to Jesus.

Through the Holy Spirit, I am bold as a lion.

Sermon 2 - Fearless Living
Can God Really be Trusted?

Fear Grows When We Doubt God's Heart

Genesis 3:1–7 | Matthew 4:1–11 | Romans 5:8 | Proverbs 28:1

Sermon 2 Notes

City Group Guide – Week 2: Fearless Living
Can God Really Be Trusted?
Fear Grows When We Doubt God's Heart

1. Welcome & Check-In

2. Opening Prayer

3. Scripture Reading: Genesis 3:1–7 | Matthew 4:1–11 | Romans 5:8 | Proverbs 28:1

4. Observation & Reflection

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about people?

Is there a sin to avoid, a command to obey, a promise to claim, or an example to follow?

5. Personal Obedience – Application & Mission

“Because resurrection is true, this week I will _____ as an act of obedience to Jesus.”

6. Reinforcement Scriptures

Use these during the week for prayer or reflection:

Romans 8:32 | Psalm 34:8 | Lamentations 3:22–23

7. Closing Prayer & Requests

8. Rhythms for Spiritual Formation (Practice for the Week)

Reach out to one person who has become disconnected from church, community, or faith.

Invite someone to worship, City Group, or coffee.

Share a portion of your testimony about how Jesus pursued you, remembering that your story may become someone else's invitation to hope.

FEARLESS LIVING: Week 2- Can God Really Be Trusted?

Fear grows when we doubt God's Heart

"The righteous are bold as a lion."

Monday September 14: Is God Really Good?

Focus Scripture: Genesis 3:4-5

Reflection

The serpent's first attack questioned God's Word. His second attack questioned God's heart.

He subtly suggested that God was withholding something good from Adam and Eve.

The implication was devastating: "If God really loved you, He wouldn't say no."

That same lie still echoes today.

When prayers go unanswered.

When life takes an unexpected turn.

When suffering lingers.

When obedience costs us something.

Fear whispers that God is distant or uncaring. Faith remembers that His goodness is not measured by our circumstances but by His unchanging character.

The cross forever settles the question of God's heart. If He was willing to give His own Son for us, He is not withholding what is ultimately best for us.

Trust begins when we stop evaluating God's love through today's circumstances and start viewing today's circumstances through God's love.

Application

Write down three ways you've experienced God's goodness over the past year. Let gratitude remind you of His faithfulness.

Prayer

Father, when life is difficult, remind me that Your heart toward me has never changed.

Help me trust Your goodness even when I don't understand Your ways. Amen.

Challenge

Share one story of God's faithfulness with someone today.

Tuesday September 15: The Lie of "God Is Holding Out on Me"

Focus Scripture: Genesis 3:6

Reflection

Adam and Eve lived in abundance.

Every tree. Every river. Perfect fellowship. Meaningful work. Purpose. Joy.

Yet the enemy redirected their attention to the one thing they didn't have.

Fear does the same thing.

It magnifies what is missing until we forget everything God has already provided.

Comparison feeds this lie.

We compare houses, careers, relationships, opportunities, gifts, and seasons of life.

Soon we begin believing everyone else has received something better from God than we have.

Contentment isn't pretending life is perfect.

Contentment is recognizing that the Father has never stopped being generous.

James tells us that "Every good and perfect gift is from above."

Every blessing in your life is evidence of God's kindness.

Instead of asking, "What am I missing?" begin asking, "What has God already entrusted to me?"

Gratitude silences the lie that God is holding out on you.

Application

Spend five minutes thanking God for specific blessings instead of asking Him for anything.

Prayer

Lord, forgive me for focusing on what I lack instead of celebrating Your generosity.

Open my eyes to see Your gifts today. Amen.

Challenge

Write ten blessings in a journal before going to bed.

Wednesday September 16: Trust Before Understanding

Focus Scripture: Isaiah 55:8-9

Reflection

One of the hardest lessons in the Christian life is learning that we don't have to understand everything in order to trust God.

Jesus understood this perfectly.

In the wilderness, Satan continually tempted Him to bypass the Father's plan.

Take the shortcut.

Avoid the suffering.

Take control.

Yet Jesus trusted His Father's heart before He understood every step ahead.

Real faith doesn't demand every answer.

Faith says,

"I know the One who holds the answers."

Waiting is often God's classroom for trust.

Many of the greatest blessings in Scripture came after seasons of waiting.

Abraham.

Joseph.

David.

The disciples.

God's delays are never God's abandonment.

Sometimes His greatest gift is developing our character while we wait for His provision.

Application

Identify one area where you've been demanding answers. Surrender your timeline to God today.

Prayer

Father, teach me to trust You before I understand You. Grow my faith while I wait.

Amen.

Challenge

Instead of asking "Why?" today, ask "Lord, what are You teaching me?"

Thursday September 17: Look at Jesus

Focus Scripture: Romans 5:8

Reflection

Whenever you begin questioning God's love, look at Jesus.

The cross answers every accusation against God's character.

The serpent claimed God couldn't be trusted.

Jesus stretched out His hands and proved otherwise.

The cross reminds us:

God pursues us.

God forgives us.

God sacrifices for us.

God never abandons us.

The greatest demonstration of God's love wasn't a miracle or a blessing.

It was Jesus willingly laying down His life.

The next time fear whispers, "God doesn't care," answer by remembering Calvary.

God has already settled that question forever.

Application

Read the account of Jesus' crucifixion today (John 19 or Luke 23). Spend time thanking Him for His sacrifice.

Prayer

Jesus, thank You for proving the Father's love through the cross. Let Your sacrifice become the foundation of my confidence. Amen.

Challenge

Take communion today if possible, or spend time reflecting on Christ's sacrifice.

Friday September 18: Boldness Grows Where Trust Grows

Focus Scripture

Proverbs 28:1

Reflection

The righteous are bold as lions—not because life is easy, but because they trust their Father.

Boldness isn't the absence of hardship.

It's confidence in God's character.

Think about your own story.

Has God carried you before?

Has He forgiven you?

Provided for you?

Comforted you?

Guided you?

Then why would today be the first day He abandoned you?

Fear asks, "What if God doesn't come through?"

Faith asks, "When has He ever failed?"

The longer we walk with Jesus, the more evidence we gather of His faithfulness.

Every answered prayer. Every unexpected provision. Every moment of grace.

Every rescue. Every lesson.

Each one becomes another reminder that the Father can be trusted.

Application

Write a timeline of God's faithfulness in your life. Let your history with God strengthen your faith for today.

Prayer

Father, thank You for every time You've been faithful. Help me trust You with tomorrow because You've never failed me yesterday. Amen.

Challenge

Encourage someone else today by sharing a testimony of God's faithfulness.

Saturday September 19: RPMS Weekly Check-In

Growing in Trust

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding." — Proverbs 3:5

Fear grows when we doubt God's heart.

Faith grows when we remember His goodness.

Take a few moments to honestly evaluate your week.

Relational

- Did I trust God in my relationships?
- Did fear keep me from loving someone well?
- Who can I encourage this week?

Physical

- Did I care for my body as a gift from God?
- Was I rested enough to recognize God's goodness?
- What physical habits increased or decreased my peace?

Mental

- What fear surfaced most often this week?
- What truth about God's character challenged that fear?
- Have I been dwelling on problems or God's promises?

Spiritual

- How did I experience God's goodness this week?
- Did I spend consistent time with Him?
- Where is He inviting me to trust Him more deeply?

Weekly Reflection

Complete these statements:

- This week I learned...
- Fear whispered...
- God's heart reminded me...
- Next week I will trust Him by...

Closing Prayer

Father,

Thank You for Your faithful love that never changes. Thank You that even when life is uncertain, Your heart remains good. Help me trust You before I understand every circumstance. May gratitude replace fear, and may confidence in Your character shape every decision I make.

Teach me to remember Your faithfulness, celebrate Your goodness, and walk boldly because I know You.

In Jesus' name,
Amen.

Today's Declaration

I will not believe the voice of fear.

I will trust the Father's Word.

I will trust the Father's heart.

I will walk in the Father's ways.

I belong to Jesus.

Through the Holy Spirit, I am bold as a lion.

Sermon 3 - Fearless Living

Where Will You Find Life?

Fear Convinces us that Life is Found Apart from God

Genesis 3:1–7 | Matthew 4:1–11 | Matthew 16:24–26 | Proverbs 28:1

Sermon 3 Notes

FEARLESS LIVING: Week 3- Fearless Living

Where Will You Find Life?

Fear convinces us that life is found apart from God

1. Welcome & Check-In

2. Opening Prayer

3. Scripture Reading: Genesis 3:1-7 | Matthew 4:1-11 | Matthew 16:24-16 | Proverbs 28:1

4. Observation & Reflection

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about people?

Is there a sin to avoid, a command to obey, a promise to claim, or an example to follow?

5. Personal Obedience – Application & Mission

“Because resurrection is true, this week I will _____ as an act of obedience to Jesus.”

6. Reinforcement Scriptures

Use these during the week for prayer or reflection:

Romans 8:32 | Psalm 34:8 | Lamentations 3:22–23

7. Closing Prayer & Requests

8. Rhythms for Spiritual Formation (Practice for the Week)

Reach out to one person who has become disconnected from church, community, or faith.

Invite someone to worship, City Group, or coffee.

Share a portion of your testimony about how Jesus pursued you, remembering that your story may become someone else's invitation to hope.

FEARLESS LIVING: Week 3 - Where Will You Find Life?

Fear convinces us that life is found apart from God

"The righteous are bold as a lion."

Monday September 21: The Illusion of Control

Focus Scripture: Genesis 3:4–7

Reflection

Control is one of fear's greatest disguises. Most of us don't wake up thinking, "Today I'm going to replace God." Yet that's exactly what fear invites us to do.

Fear whispers: "If you don't fix it, no one will."

"If you don't control every outcome, everything will fall apart."

"If you don't hold your family, finances, future, or reputation together, you're in trouble."

The serpent didn't simply tempt Adam and Eve to eat fruit. He tempted them to become their own authority. He promised independence, but delivered bondage.

The irony is that the more control we seek, the less peace we experience.

We obsess over things we cannot change. We rehearse conversations that haven't happened. We try to manage other people's opinions. We attempt to predict tomorrow.

Control promises security, but only God can provide it.

Jesus invites us into a different way of living. Instead of carrying burdens we were never created to bear, He invites us to trust Him with what only He can control.

Peace begins where control ends.

Application

Identify one situation you've been trying to control. Write it down and intentionally surrender it to God in prayer today.

Prayer

Father, forgive me for trying to carry responsibilities that belong to You. Help me release control and trust Your wisdom, Your timing, and Your power. Amen.

Challenge

Whenever anxiety rises today, simply pray:

"Father, this belongs to You."

Tuesday September 22: Good Things Can Become Ultimate Things

Focus Scripture: Matthew 4:8–10

Reflection

One of the enemy's greatest strategies is offering us something good in the wrong way.

Influence is good. Success is good. Marriage is good. Rest is good.

Financial stability is good.

None of those things are sinful.

The temptation comes when good things become ultimate things.

Satan offered Jesus a kingdom without a cross.

Power without obedience.

Influence without sacrifice.

Glory without suffering.

Every temptation offered Jesus something good apart from the Father's way.

The same temptation confronts us every day.

Will we pursue success God's way?

Will we pursue relationships God's way?

Will we pursue purpose God's way?

Or will we settle for shortcuts?

God is never trying to keep us from abundant life.

He's protecting us from counterfeit life.

Application

Ask yourself today:

"Is there anything good in my life that has become more important than obedience to Jesus?"

Prayer

Lord, reveal any idols that have quietly taken Your place in my heart. Help me desire

You above every other good thing. Amen.

Challenge

Spend time thanking God for His gifts—but worship the Giver instead of the gifts.

Wednesday September 23: Life Is Found in Dependence

Focus Scripture: John 15:4–5

Reflection

Our culture celebrates independence.

God celebrates dependence.

That sounds backwards until we remember who we're depending on.

Branches don't apologize for depending on the vine.

Children don't apologize for depending on loving parents.

Creation was never designed to exist apart from its Creator.

Neither were we.

Jesus never viewed dependence as weakness.

He modeled it.

He regularly withdrew to pray.

He sought the Father's will.

He lived in complete surrender to the Spirit.

If the Son of God chose dependence, why do we fight so hard for independence?

Real freedom isn't found in proving how capable we are.

It is found in admitting how desperately we need Jesus.

Dependence doesn't make us weak.

It connects us to the source of life.

Application

Begin every major decision today with this simple prayer:

"Jesus, what would You have me do?"

Prayer

Jesus, teach me to remain close to You. Help me depend on Your wisdom instead of my own understanding. Amen.

Challenge

Pause before every important decision today and invite the Holy Spirit to guide you.

Thursday September 24: Freedom Begins with Surrender

Focus Scripture: Matthew 16:24–26

Reflection

Our world often defines surrender as defeat.

Jesus defines surrender as the pathway to life.

The cross teaches us that life is found through dying to ourselves.

We surrender our plans.

Our pride.

Our fears.

Our need to control.

Our need to always be right.

Every surrender feels like a loss until we realize what we've gained.

Adam reached for the tree because he believed life could be found apart from God.

Jesus went to another tree—the cross—so life could be restored to us forever.

The cross reminds us that surrender is never about losing ourselves.

It's about finding ourselves in Christ.

Every day we surrender is another day we discover greater freedom.

Application

Pray through every area of your life today, asking:

"Father, is there anything I'm still holding back from You?"

Prayer

Father, I surrender every area of my life to You. I trust that Your plans are better than mine and Your ways always lead to life. Amen.

Challenge

Open your hands during prayer today as a physical reminder of surrender.

Friday September 25: Jesus Is Enough

Focus Scripture: Philippians 3:7–9

Reflection

Fear constantly tells us that we need something more.

More money. More security. More influence.

More recognition. More control. More certainty.

Paul discovered something radically different.

After gaining everything the world applauded, he counted it all as loss compared to knowing Christ.

Jesus is not merely the doorway into eternal life.

He is life.

When Jesus becomes enough, fear begins losing its grip.

We no longer need to prove ourselves.

We no longer need to accumulate more.

We no longer need everyone else's approval.

We already possess the greatest treasure imaginable.

The Father Himself.

Fear says,

"You need something else."

Faith says,

"Christ is enough."

Application

Finish this sentence honestly:

"I've been believing I need _____ to finally have peace."

Now surrender that to Jesus.

Prayer

Jesus, thank You for being enough. Help me find my deepest joy and greatest security in You alone. Amen.

Challenge

Spend ten quiet minutes simply enjoying God's presence without asking Him for anything.

Saturday September 26: RPMS Weekly Check-In

Living in Surrender

"Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." — Matthew 11:28

This week we've learned that freedom isn't found in controlling life—it's found in surrendering our lives to Jesus.

Spend time honestly reflecting before the Lord.

Relational

- Did I trust God with my relationships this week?
- Was I controlling people or loving people?
- Is there someone I need to forgive or encourage?

Physical

- Did I care for the body God has entrusted to me?
- Was I able to slow down and rest?
- Did exhaustion make me more controlling or anxious?

Mental

- What burden was I never meant to carry?
- Where did I experience God's peace after surrendering control?
- What fear still needs to be surrendered?

Spiritual

- What area of my life have I fully surrendered?
- What area am I still trying to control?
- How did I experience God's presence this week?

Weekly Reflection

Finish these statements:

- This week I discovered...
- Fear tempted me to...
- Jesus invited me to...
- This week I surrender...

Closing Prayer

Father,

Thank You for reminding me that life is found in You alone. Forgive me for the times I have trusted myself more than I have trusted You. Today I surrender my fears, my future, my plans, and every burden I've been carrying. Teach me to rest in Your goodness and to walk in daily dependence upon You.

May my surrender become worship, and may my worship produce the courage to follow wherever You lead.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Today's Declaration

I will not believe the voice of fear.

I will trust the Father's Word.

I will trust the Father's heart.

I will walk in the Father's ways.

I belong to Jesus.

Through the Holy Spirit, I am bold as a lion.

Sermon 4 - Fearless Living

Bold as a Lion

Fearless Living is the Natural Result of Knowing God

Acts 4:1–20, 29–31 | Proverbs 28:1

Sermon 4 Notes

City Group Guide – Week 4: Fearless Living Bold as a Lion

1. Welcome & Check-In

2. Opening Prayer

3. Scripture Reading: Acts 4:8-31 | Proverbs 28:1

4. Observation & Reflection

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about people?

Is there a sin to avoid, a command to obey, a promise to claim, or an example to follow?

5. Personal Obedience – Application & Mission

“Because resurrection is true, this week I will _____ as an act of obedience to Jesus.”

6. Reinforcement Scriptures

Use these during the week for prayer or reflection:

Acts 1:8 | Romans 1:16 | 2 Timothy 1:7

7. Closing Prayer & Requests

8. Rhythms for Spiritual Formation (Practice for the Week)

Daily prayer for boldness.

Pray for one lost friend by name.

Practice immediate obedience.

FEARLESS LIVING: Week 4 - Bold As Lions

Fearless living is the natural result of knowing who God is, knowing who you are, and walking in the power of the Holy Spirit.

"The righteous are bold as a lion."

Monday September 28: Fearful People Become Fearless

Focus Scripture: Acts 4:8–12

Reflection

If anyone understands fear, it's Peter.

He was the disciple who boldly declared his loyalty to Jesus—only to deny Him three times around a campfire. Fear had reduced one of Jesus' closest followers to hiding behind self-preservation.

Yet only weeks later, Peter stood before the very leaders who had crucified Jesus and boldly proclaimed the Gospel.

What changed? Peter didn't suddenly become naturally courageous.

He encountered the risen Christ. He was filled with the Holy Spirit.

He finally believed who Jesus said he was. That same transformation is available to every follower of Jesus. The greatest miracle in Acts isn't simply that lame people walked. It's that fearful people became fearless. God doesn't wait until you're naturally brave before He uses you. He transforms ordinary people who surrender to His Spirit. Your past failures don't define your future usefulness. Neither does your personality. The Holy Spirit delights in taking fearful people and making them courageous witnesses for Jesus.

Application

Think about an area where fear has held you back. Ask God to fill you with His Spirit and give you courage to take one faithful step today.

Prayer

Holy Spirit, fill me today. Replace fear with courage and help me become the person You created me to be. Thank You that my past does not determine my future. Amen.

Challenge

Take one step today that fear has been telling you to avoid.

Tuesday September 29: Boldness Begins with Identity

Focus Scripture: Acts 4:13-14

Reflection

The religious leaders weren't impressed by Peter's education.

They weren't amazed by his personality.

They weren't intimidated by his credentials.

They recognized one thing:

He had been with Jesus.

That's the source of biblical boldness.

Our world tells us confidence comes from accomplishments, influence, education, appearance, or success.

The Gospel tells us confidence comes from identity.

Because of Jesus:

You are forgiven. You are accepted. You are adopted. You are empowered. You are sent.

You no longer have to earn God's approval because you already have it in Christ.

Fear thrives when we forget who we are.

Faith flourishes when we remember whose we are.

Every morning you have a choice.

You can define yourself by your failures, your feelings, or other people's opinions.

Or you can define yourself by what your heavenly Father says about you.

The righteous are bold as lions because they know they belong to the King.

Application

Read Ephesians 1 today and highlight every statement describing who you are in Christ.

Prayer

Father, remind me today that my identity is secure in Jesus. Help me live from Your acceptance instead of striving for it. Amen.

Challenge

When negative thoughts arise today, replace them with this truth:

"I am a beloved son (or daughter) of God."

Wednesday September 30: Filled with the Holy Spirit

Focus Scripture: Acts 4:29–31

Reflection

The early church had every reason to pray for safety.

They had been threatened. Arrested. Opposed.

Instead, they prayed something surprising.

"Lord... enable Your servants to speak Your Word with great boldness."

They didn't ask for easier circumstances.

They asked for greater courage.

Sometimes our prayers reveal what we're living for.

Are we praying mostly for comfort?

Or are we praying for courage?

The Holy Spirit doesn't merely comfort us—He commissions us.

He empowers ordinary believers to live extraordinary lives for Jesus.

Boldness isn't about becoming louder.

It's about becoming more faithful.

The Spirit gives us courage to forgive.

To serve.

To share Christ.

To obey.

To love when it's difficult.

To stand firm when culture pushes back.

The same Spirit who empowered the early church lives inside every believer today.

Application

Ask God to make your prayers more mission-focused this week. Pray for boldness before you pray for comfort.

Prayer

Holy Spirit, give me courage to obey You completely. Fill my life with boldness that points people to Jesus. Amen.

Challenge

Pray specifically for one opportunity this week to share God's love with someone.

Thursday October 1: Boldness Leads to Mission

Focus Scripture: Matthew 5:14–16

Reflection

Boldness isn't an end in itself.

God doesn't make us courageous so we can feel stronger.

He makes us courageous so others can encounter Jesus.

Fear always turns inward.

Faith always turns outward.

A fearless believer naturally begins asking different questions.

Who can I encourage? Who can I serve? Who can I invite? Who needs hope today?

The early church wasn't consumed with protecting itself.

It was consumed with proclaiming Christ.

They served joyfully. Forgave freely. Shared generously. Loved sacrificially.

That's what fearless living looks like.

Mission isn't something we occasionally do.

Mission is who we are.

Every conversation. Every workplace. Every neighborhood. Every classroom.

Every dinner table. Every City Group.

Every act of kindness becomes an opportunity to reveal Jesus.

Application

Ask God to show you one person who needs encouragement today. Reach out before the day is over.

Prayer

Father, open my eyes to the people around me. Help me see every interaction as an opportunity to represent Jesus. Amen.

Challenge

Invite someone to church, City Group, or simply into a meaningful conversation about faith.

Friday October 2: Go Live Fearlessly

Focus Scripture: Joshua 1:9

Reflection

Over the past four weeks we've walked through one incredible story.
The serpent questioned God's Word. The serpent questioned God's heart.
The serpent questioned God's ways.
Jesus answered every lie.
The cross defeated every accusation. The resurrection secured our identity.
The Holy Spirit now empowers us to live differently.
Fearless living doesn't mean we'll never feel afraid.
It means fear no longer gets the final word.
We don't have to hide anymore. We don't have to strive anymore.
We don't have to prove ourselves anymore.
Because of Jesus:
We are forgiven. We are accepted. We are empowered. We are sent.
Imagine what God could do through a church where people truly believed those realities.
Imagine families transformed. Neighbors invited.
City Groups multiplied. Lives restored. Disciples made. Churches planted.
Communities changed.
That's the kind of fearless church Jesus is building.
And He invites every one of us to be part of it.

Application

Ask yourself:

"If fear no longer had the final word, what would I do next?"

Then take the first step.

Prayer

Jesus, thank You for setting me free. Help me leave fear behind and walk boldly into the mission You've prepared for me. Amen.

Challenge

Write down one act of obedience you've been delaying. Commit to doing it this week.

Saturday October 3: RPMS Weekly Check-In

Living Boldly

"Fearless living is the natural result of knowing who God is, knowing who you are, and walking in the power of the Holy Spirit."

This week we've discovered that fearless living is not about becoming tougher—it is about becoming more surrendered to Jesus and more dependent upon the Holy Spirit. Take a few quiet moments with the Lord as you reflect.

Relational

- Did I intentionally encourage someone this week?
- Did I avoid any conversations because of fear?
- Who is God inviting me to love, forgive, or invite?

Physical

- Did I steward my body well so I could faithfully serve God's mission?
- Did I make space for rest and renewal?
- How did my physical health affect my spiritual attentiveness?

Mental

- What fear lost its grip on me this week?
- What truth has become more deeply rooted in my heart?
- Am I thinking more like Jesus than I was four weeks ago?

Spiritual

- Did I spend consistent time with Jesus this week?
- Where did I experience the Holy Spirit's leading?
- How did I respond when He prompted me to obey?

Weekly Reflection

Complete these statements:

- This week God reminded me...
- I stepped out in faith when...
- The Holy Spirit gave me courage to...
- Moving forward, I want to live fearlessly by...

Closing Prayer

Father,

Thank You for leading me through these weeks of learning what it means to live fearlessly. Thank You that Your Word is true, Your heart is good, and Your ways lead to life. Continue shaping me into someone who reflects Jesus wherever I go.

Fill me daily with Your Holy Spirit. Give me courage to obey quickly, love deeply, serve joyfully, and boldly share the hope of Christ with those around me.

May my life point others to You—not because I am fearless in myself, but because I belong to You.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Today's Declaration

I will not believe the voice of fear.

I will trust the Father's Word.

I will trust the Father's heart.

I will walk in the Father's ways.

I belong to Jesus.

Through the Holy Spirit, I am bold as a lion.