



**ABUSED WOMAN
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[ABUSED WOMAN MINISTRIES' INC. SCHOOL OF HEALING]

“Healing through recovery with God’s truth”

“Biblical Foundations of Freedom Destroying Satan’s Lies With God’s Truth” was written by Dr. Art Mathias:

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About the Authors:

Dr. Mathias has lived in Alaska for more than twenty five years. He is a businessman, bush pilot, outdoorsman, and has authored several books and booklets. He and his wife Patti, of 38 years have two grown sons. Patti is an accomplished teacher and along with her husband are founders of Wellspring Ministries. Dr. Mathias has earned his master and doctorate degrees in counseling. Both Patti and Dr. Mathias travel extensively teaching about and demonstrating a powerful God that has answers.

I had the opportunity to attend one of Dr. Mathias’ “Biblical Foundations of Freedom” seminars a couple of months ago and it was a life changing event for me. I saw firsthand what God was doing at his seminars; I witnessed how powerful forgiveness is – people were getting set free because they decided to forgive – some had been holding onto unforgiveness for years - and that is why I decided to adapt his book into my Recovery program. Forgiveness is powerful because when we decide to forgive, we are obeying God’s Word and when we obey God, we will be blessed.

I am using these materials from Dr. Mathias’ book and other training aids by permission from him and his wife Patti.

Welcome to the journey that is going to change your life!

God bless,

Dr. Dorothy E. Hooks, PsyD

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Class Dates & Topics:

February 21st, 2010 – June 19th, 2010 - all classes will be held online:

- Preface & Introduction (2 hour) – February 21st – 27th.
- What Is Sin – Chapter One (2½ hours) – February 28th – March 6th.
- Discernment – Chapter Two (2½ hours) – March 7th – March 13th.
- Accusing Spirits – Chapter Three (2½ hours) – March 14th – March 20th.
- The Major Strongholds, or Principalities, of Satan – Chapter Four (1½ hours) – March 21st – 27th.
- Principality of Bitterness – Chapter Five (2½ hours) – March 28th – April 3rd.
- Principality of Self-Bitterness, Unloving Spirits – Chapter Six (3½ hours) – April 11th – April 24th.
- Forgiveness – Chapter Seven (2 hours) – April 25th – May 1st.
- Principality of Jealousy & Envy – Chapter Eight (2½ hours) – May 2nd – May 8th.
- Principality of Rejection – Chapter Nine (3½ hours) – May 9th – May 15th.
- **Principality of Fear – Chapter Ten (2½ hours) – May 16th – May 22nd.**
- Principality of Occultism, Pharmakia & Sorcery – Chapter Eleven (2½ hours) – May 23rd – May 29th.
- The Kinsman Redeemer – Chapter Twelve (1½ hours) – May 30th – June 5th.
- The Armor of God – Chapter Thirteen (5½ hours) – June 6th – June 12th.
- Our Power and Authority in Christ – Chapter Fourteen (3 hours) – June 13th – June 19th.

Class Location: www.recovery4abusedwoman.org – Main Web Site



Winter Semester 2010
BFOF Class Syllabus
May 16th – May 22nd

Instructor: Dr. Dorothy E. Hooks, PsyD

Campus: www.recovery4abusedwoman.org

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Topic & Goal:

- **Principality of Fear – Goal:** to define and explain the principality of fear. **To accomplish this goal, we will:**

- ✚ Define Fear
- ✚ Explain How Fear Enters Our Lives
- ✚ Discuss Fears That Torment Us
- ✚ Answer The Question: “What Is Fear?”
- ✚ Explain Why Fear And Faith Equal
- ✚ Give A Partial List of Fears
- ✚ Give “Prayer For Overcoming Fear”



Principality of Fear

Definition of Fear

First, let's define fear. Satan is the master counterfeiter. He will always take what God has meant for good and distort it for his purposes.

The dictionary defines "fear" as "the emotion of being afraid, of feeling danger, or that evil is near, an uneasy or anxious thought." Synonyms are dread, or alarm. Dread is defined as "a great fear."

Fear can warn us of danger so that we can protect ourselves. If we are standing next to a cliff, it warns us to be careful. In times of danger fear also creates a "flight-fight" response in our bodies. This flight-fight response causes the adrenal glands to secrete large amounts of adrenaline, which causes several different physiological responses in our bodies. **The primary one is an increase in strength to protect us. But many live in a constant state of flight-fight (living in the Red Zone) as they think about the things that have happened to them. The over-secretion of adrenaline and cortisol will destroy your immune system and the calcium in your bones.**

Scripture teaches us that we are to fear God. This does not mean that we are to be afraid of Him.

The Hebrew word used for this kind of fear is yir'ah (Strong's 3374). It means to have reverence for God. He is the giver of every good and perfect gift. But all too many of us are afraid of Him. The Hebrew word for this kind of fear is yare (Strong's 3372). It means cause to be frightened, to make afraid or dread.

God the Father is love. In Matthew 22:37 Jesus said, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." We are to love God the Father, not be afraid of Him. God is the only one that loves each of us perfectly.

The Greek word deilos, translated fear in the New Testament, means "to dread; timid," i.e. (by implication) it means "faithless or fearful." Fear is equated with being faithless (Matthew 8:26, Mark 4:40, II Timothy 1:7, Revelation 21:8). Matthew 8:26 illustrates this meaning: "And He saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then He arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm." Mark 4:40 says, "And He said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?"

Scripture records four occurrences of little or no faith: 1) concerning necessities of life (Matthew 6:30); 2) concerning danger (Matthew 8:26); 3) concerning working miracles (Matthew 14:31); 4) concerning food (Matthew 16:6-12).

In this chapter we will establish the fact that this kind of fear is a sin, and learn how to defeat it. We will see what fear has done and is doing to us, and how it functions. Being afraid, uneasy or anxious, and having great fear can cause extreme problems spiritually, physically, and mentally.

Psalms 56:11 says, "In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me." We will see how these powerful words can deliver us from Satan's grasp and heal our diseases.



Principality of Fear

Definition of Fear (continued)

The Bible gives us many antidotes — remedies — to fear. The entire Bible is written to and about God's people. The Bible is written to the Old Testament church and the New Testament church. The Bible is not written about or to sinners, but to believers.

I John 4:18 says, "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love." If we are in fear we are not made perfect in love. In other words, our fear prevents us from receiving His love. In fear we are calling Him a liar and telling Him that we do not trust Him. This kind of fear is unbelief

Fear often uses torment to affect our minds and bodies, causing mental and physical disease. Medical textbooks list more than forty diseases that result from anxiety and stress.

Since Scripture links fear to faithlessness, then fear must be a form of sin. This is a new thought to most people. Searching the Scriptures helps us better understand what God says about fear.

Revelation 21:8 says, "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death."

Fear is linked with some very serious and damaging sins in this verse. The penalty, too, is very serious: spending eternity in the lake of fire, the second death. God takes sin seriously, and again, He lists fear as sin, right next to murder, sorcery, idolatry and lying.

God is testing our hearts. Mankind has been on probation for six thousand years as God examines us to discern whether He has another Lucifer on His hands. He tests us for the kind of rebellion revealed in the hearts of one-third of all of heaven's angels. Do we harbor any rebellion? Unbelief and faithlessness are forms of rebellion. As we live out our days, will we be God's ambassadors or leaders of another rebellion against Him, like Lucifer?

We need a reality check now, because now is the time that our hearts perfected for eternity. As people saved by faith and who are on daily probation, we work out our salvation with fear and trembling. God expects us to live triumphantly, in His power and for His purpose. Philippians 2:12 says, "Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling."

Ephesians 2:8 says, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is a gift of God." We are saved by faith, but faith is never alone. James 2:17 says, "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone." We are to work out our salvation by showing our faith by our works.



Principality of Fear

Definition of Fear (continued)

James 2:18 says, "Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works." It is clear that we have a responsibility to live in a manner consistent with one who has been perfected, pressing on toward our high calling in Christ Jesus. Personal holiness, sanctification, and righteousness give no room to fear. Fear stems from unrighteousness.

Our fear provides Satan's kingdom a foothold. Fear tells God that He's lost the battle and claims that Satan rules. It declares God powerless to do anything about it. Fear and faith are equal in this; they both demand to be fulfilled.

Hebrews 11:1 says, "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Fear consists of things not hoped for, the evidence seen, or at least vividly imagined. Fear focuses on temporal events, ignores the eternal, and plays a central role in our earthly existence.

It is a common – and false – Christian teaching that once we are saved, all of our problems disappear. This teaching results in great confusion. The evidence is that we all struggle with sin and disease. We cannot deny the evidence. In truth the war just begins when we become born again. But it is a war that we can win if we apply God's principles by becoming a doer of the Word.

The difference for a believer is that when we face problems, our relationship with the Godhead has given us the ability to successfully deal with them. Before Christ, we had no ability to conquer sin. Under the New Covenant we can defeat the works of the devil in our lives. Yet to defeat sin, we still must choose to do our part, and that is to obey God and resist the devil. God's part is to send the devil fleeing.

What does this mean? "... work out your own salvation with fear and trembling" (Philippians 2:12). I Peter 4:18 says, "And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?"

The Bible adds that judgment begins at the house of God. I Peter 4:17 says, "For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?"

Revelation 19:7-8 says, "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to Him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white." Are we ready for this?

Scripture says that we are dressed in fine linen. This fine linen is the righteousness of saints. It's a garment of righteousness, not a literal garment. Righteousness speaks to our right standing with God through Jesus Christ. God freely gave us, or imputes Christ's righteousness at the time of our salvation. This legal position is not the same as our experience. We are also to be sanctified in our experience in our daily walk with God.



Principality of Fear

Definition of Fear (continued)

Isaiah 33:14 says, "The sinners in Zion are afraid; fear-fullness hath surprised the hypocrites. Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? Who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings?"

The sinners in Zion are afraid. What does this describe? Zion represents the church in covenant with God. How can we have a covenant relationship with God and still be sinners? Does accepting Jesus as our Savior render us unable to sin? Of course not! God says no one is sinless. II Chronicles 6:36a says: "If they sin against thee, (for there is no man which sinneth not)."

II Chronicles 7:14 says, "If My people, which are called by My name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked way; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." This verse speaks to His people, God's people who are believers.

No one is sinless. If we think we are sinless, we have been deceived. Romans 3:23 says, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."

When we stand before God and our works are tested by fire, whatever is not burned up will stand eternally. What areas of our lives would fail the scrutiny of the living God? Many areas.

How Does Fear Enter Our Lives?

God's Word describes the characteristics of those who have good standing before Him. "He that walketh righteously and speaketh uprightly; he that despise the gain of oppressions, that shaketh his hands from holding of bribes, that stoppeth his ears from hearing of blood, and shutteth his eyes from seeing evil; He shall dwell on high; his place of defense shall be the munitions of rocks: bread shall be given him; his waters shall be sure. Thine eyes shall see the King in His beauty: they shall behold the land that is very far off" (Isaiah 33:15-17). The beauty and power of these promises bless God's people.

As believers, how does fear enter our lives? These verses suggest two ways. The person who walks righteously stops his ears from hearing violence, and shuts his eyes from seeing evil.

We must be very careful as to what we watch on television, at the movies, or what video games we play. Because Satan will haunt us with something we have watched.

Especially, Harry Potter and Pokémon which creates an entry point for the spirit of fear. II Timothy 1:7 says, "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." The spirit of fear is a tool of the devil that he sends to torment us. God has given His power, the Holy Spirit; His love, which is Himself; and a sound mind, which is Jesus the Word. We give the spirits of fear access to us by the things we choose to watch or participate in.



Principality of Fear

How Does Fear Enter Our Lives? (continued)

How many times have we exposed our eyes to evil, saying, "Well, I'm only watching, (or reading, or listening); I'm not actually doing it; or, it is just entertainment, so it's okay"? Watching evil condones it. We become an accessory after the fact. We must choose to guard our eyes against evil. Most TV programming endangers your spiritual health, and that of your family.

Many video games are filled with violence, often resulting in antisocial behavior and rebellion. Pokémon, for instance, is straight from the pit of hell.

Pokémon means "pocket monster." It is a dangerous game for our children to play, as a version of Satanism for kids. Satanic worship invites people to gather more and more powerful demons inside themselves, giving them more powers and ability. The goal in Pokémon is to collect as many of the one hundred fifty different demons' cards as possible, because owning the card gives you the character's power. This is pure Satanism in its philosophy, principle, and practice.

Harry Potter is seducing our children into witchcraft, wicca, black magic and the occult.

God says that we are to be called out and separated from other people - different from them, not leavened by them. "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvelous light" (I Peter 2:9). Yes, it's hard to live as called-out people given all the cultural distractions, but this is what Almighty God asks of us. God repeats this theme many times. I Thessalonians 2:12 says, "That ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto His kingdom and glory."

A sickness such as asthma is caused by fear, anxiety, and stress. Fear causes the bronchial tubes and alveoli to become rigid, preventing the release of carbon dioxide. Trapped in the lungs, the carbon dioxide prevents the lungs from absorbing oxygen. Anxiety and fear may also cause inflammation. The inhaler that asthma sufferers use contains an anti-anxiety and muscle-relaxant drug. These drugs cause the cell walls to relax so a healthy exchange of carbon dioxide and oxygen can take place. Some inhalers also contain steroids to reduce the inflammation, and thus open the air passages. The drugs, acting as they do, brings real relief; but they also indicate a real problem rooted in fear, anxiety and stress.

Fear affects allergies as well. When people harbor resentment and bitterness, this weakens your immune system. When people keep and "live in" a record of wrongs against others and themselves, this releases adrenaline and cortisol into their bloodstream, causing them to live in the state of flight-fight. God did not design the human body to function this way and eventually something has to give. The body wears itself out as these hormones destroy its immune system, constantly sending conflicting signals.



Principality of Fear

How Does Fear Enter Our Lives? (continued)

Allergies result from this breakdown in the immune system. Then we become fearful of the things to which we are allergic. We even begin to fear what we might become allergic to in the future; your allergies list will grow along with your fear level.

Once people learn to forgive others and themselves, their immune system will begin the healing process. The allergies are real, but fear and bitterness is the root cause.

Environmental illness is one of our most common fear and anxiety disorders. People become allergic to everything. The person with this type of severe fear disorder usually meets one or more of the following four conditions: 1) they were verbally abused, 2) emotionally abused, 3) physically abused, or 4) sexually abused. This abuse often begins in childhood.

They also may have lived in a sterile environment, devoid of love. Perhaps their parents' love was conditioned upon meeting some set of difficult expectations. They rarely met the expectations of their parents. They were never quite good enough. These situations create a performance-orientated person. They feel that they must be good and perfect or they will not be accepted or okay. They live in the fear of being rejected.

I John 4:18 says, "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love!" Love gives no place to fear, but when we are not loved perfectly, fear finds an open door. I John 4:18b says, "Perfect love casts out fear" Then, "fear has torment." And, "he that feareth [because of the breakdown in love] is not made perfect in love."

When we're afraid because we've not been loved perfectly since our youngest days, we're not able to give or receive love without fear. That's what the Bible means by, "he that feareth is not made perfect in love."

Psalms 34:4-5 says, "I sought the LORD, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears. They looked unto Him, and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed." When we have shame, we have fear. When we feel unworthy, we have fear. When we feel guilty, we have fear. When we feel condemned, we have fear. When we feel like second-rate citizens (self-condemnation), we have fear.

It is important for us to recognize the various kinds of fear that trouble us. Number one on the list is fear of man. What is fear of man? It is fear of others, including our mother, father, grandmother, grandfather, brothers, sisters, pastors, parents, bosses, and schoolteachers: fear of anyone or everyone. If we can't look people in the eye, we fear men. Most of us experience a time in our lives when we fear men, but we ought not to continue doing so. The Word of God provides the antidote that combats the fear of man. When we feel intimidated by someone, God will take that weakness and make us strong. Hebrews 11:34 says, "...Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens."



Principality of Fear

Fears That Torment Us

John 3:30 gives us the formula for victory over sin by a proper relationship with our Savior: "He must increase, but I must decrease."

Next comes fear of rejection. So many of us feel sorry for ourselves because others reject us. Hebrews 13:6 says, "So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I fear what man shall do unto me."

Believers should be neither surprised nor troubled by rejection, at least when it's for the right reasons. In Isaiah 53:3, we find that Jesus was rejected of men: "He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from Him; He was despised, and we esteemed Him not." Still, it often hurts to be rejected, even when it's for righteous reasons. Turn to Christ and draw your strength from Him. He says to cast all your cares on Him, because He cares for you.

On the other hand, if we are rejected because we are worldly, walking in the flesh, we need a change of direction. We need to walk in the Light of Jesus Christ, and let Him defeat the spirit of rejection for us.

The Bible says the enemies of a man can often be found in his own house. "For the son dishonoureth the father, the daughter riseth up against her mother, the daughter in law against her mother in law; a man's enemies are the men of his own house" (Micah 7:6). Even prophets have no honor in their own home. "But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, but in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house" (Mark 6:4).

The rejection battleground in this war for our minds and hearts is in the family. And it spreads to the church, which is no stronger than the families it represents. Cities and nations are made up of families and reflect their strength or weakness. Families are no stronger than their individual members. Weak families populated by weak parents and defeated children are the consequence of homes filled with the fear of rejection.

Our Lord is acquainted with our sorrows and our grief. He feels our infirmities. "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin" (Hebrews 4:15).

God hears all our words and knows all our thoughts. He is right here with us now. God stands ready to help us withstand abuse and defeat rejection.

Zechariah 13 provides strong teaching about abuse; it is a prophecy about Jesus' enthronement during the millennium. The people from all the nations of the earth – natural people that came out of tribulation – come and bow before Him once each year, acknowledging that He is King of kings and LORD of lords.

As they bow before Him, they see the scars in His hands, still there after His resurrection. They ask Him how He got them. Zechariah describes the scene: "And one shall say unto Him, What are these wounds in Thine hands? Then He shall answer, Those with which I was wounded in the house of My friends" (Zechariah 13:6).



Principality of Fear

Fears That Torment Us (continued)

Christ resisted and withstood Satan to the point of death. We have not done so. Sure we have it tough sometimes, but nothing like our Savior. We need to abandon self-pity. Jesus died, murdered because of His love for us. He will say, "These are the wounds I received in the house of My friends."

Consider the gravity and power of these facts. God the Word, Whom Mary and Joseph named Jesus, left His heavenly throne where He lived with God. He voluntarily came to Earth, which sin had damned to extinction. The only way He could leave this earth was to die, and He knew it before He came. John 15:13 relates Christ's own words: "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

Christ's sacrifice of Himself on the Cross is the greatest love story ever told. As we begin to understand this, fear can no longer touch us because we're already dead, i.e. we're dead to ourselves, and eternally alive in Him "For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for My sake shall find it" (Matthew 16:25). We must die to ourselves, and then find real life in a new relationship with God the Father, Jesus the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

Fear of losing something holds great power over us. But a relevant question is how can we lose anything if we're already dead? As believers, our lives are no longer our own. Whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. To be absent from our body is to be present with Him. "We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord" (II Corinthians 5.8).

Psalm 118:8 says, "It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man." Yet we live in fear of others even though we are "dead men walking." As believers, we're dead to our old self but alive in Christ. As new creatures, fearful events shouldn't make a bit of difference to us as we live each day. Does fear come knocking on our door? It knocks on every man's door. Does it sometimes stagger us? It staggers all men. But the hurricane force winds of fear are just a slight breeze against which we press as we walk in His light. Fear becomes nothing more than a gentle breeze of satanic resistance.

With fear conquered, we are no longer bowled over by what fear represents. Instead, we're able to keep our eyes focused straight ahead and moving toward Christ. If you have ears to hear this teaching, then the Spirit of God will speak to your heart today. This is a powerful lesson straight out of the Word of God.

Fear is a principality of Satan. Ephesians 6:12 says, "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."

II Timothy 1:7 is clear: "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." The antidote to fear is a vital relationship with the Godhead. Power is the Holy Spirit, love is God the Father, and a sound mind is Jesus, the Word. When we are established in the Holy Spirit, the love of the Father, and the Word of God, Satan's fiery darts of fear can never hit us!



Principality of Fear

Fears That Torment Us (continued)

On the other hand, if we don't have a close relationship with the Father, the power of the Holy Spirit, or the living Word, we are like a leaf battered by the winds of life, subject at any time to be torn away and blown by fear's fiercest blast. A believer should build on the solid foundation God gave us in Jesus Christ, empowered by His Holy Spirit, standing strong like a tree planted by the waters, whose roots go deep into the ground.

The spirit of fear is never from God. Am I teaching that fear is an evil spirit? Actually, I'm saying more than that. There are many evil spirits of fear, but there is also a principality called fear. He's one of Satan's ruling princes of darkness.

Job 3:24-26 explains Satan's legal right to attack Job. Job had fear. "For my sighing cometh before I eat, and my roarings are poured out like the waters. For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me. I was not in safety, neither had I rest, neither was I quiet; yet trouble came."

Job 4:12-16 provides a clear description of the spirit of fear. "Now a thing was secretly brought to me, and mine ear received a little thereof. In thoughts from the visions of the night, when deep sleep falleth on men, Fear came upon me, and trembling, which made all my bones to shake. Then a spirit passed before my face; the hair of my flesh stood up: It stood still, but I could not discern the form thereof: an image was before mine eyes, there was silence, and I heard a voice, saying...." Here we find an evil spirit that God's Word calls a spirit of fear. Have you had a similar experience? Have you ever felt evil's presence so strongly that you were terrified? I have.

Another fear is the fear of failure. One Scripture will defeat this evil spirit. Proverbs 24:16 says, "For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again: but the wicked shall fall into mischief." Though a righteous person falls, i.e. fails, seven times, the Lord's strong hand will lift him up. That is powerful news.

If we ever attempt anything in life, we will experience some failure. A major league baseball player with a three hundred batting average fails seven out of ten times. Nearly every successful author saw dozens, if not hundreds, of rejection slips before a publisher finally took a chance with them. Failure is common to mankind. It is not a question of failing; it's a question of how to respond to failure. You might say, "Well, if I never try out for the team, I can never be cut." That attitude in itself is a failure fueled by the fear of failure. Not acting on a Holy Spirit-inspiration because of fear of failure is failure.

God has made provision for the failures of His saints. He pledges to pick us up and set us on our feet again. Just as He did, we need to make provision for failure in our life. The fact that He created forgiveness proves that He made provision for our failures.

If we don't make provision for failure, we'll be bound by a spirit of fear. Instead, we'll go into denial and never deal with or do anything. By our inaction, Satan wins a battle.



Principality of Fear

Fears That Torment Us (continued)

Every one of us avoids dealing with certain areas of our life. Every church avoids dealing with certain structural or discipline problems. This avoidance arises out of fear, but it is certain that during the course of life, these problems will surface. And it makes no difference whether or not we are born again, or the church is filled with true believers. It's amazing how often we hear, "I never had these kinds of troubles until I saved." When we got saved we entered into a spiritual war that we must learn how to win. We would have had trouble anyway, but God saved us and gave us power to deal with the problems. God's grace worked on our behalf and we didn't even know it.

Every one of us has areas of life that bring us shame and produce failure. These are the areas that need to be sanctified and renewed. We're not to be afraid of failure, we are to learn from the failures and let God heal our broken hearts.

Avoiding the areas of our lives that need to be sanctified pushes us into denial and torments us. We can pray, "God, take this thorn from my flesh, but I want no part of its removal." That's not realistic. I John 1:9 say that if we ask, God will forgive. God will never remove our fears if we fail to face them and deal with them.

For a Christian, problems serve as stepping stones to maturity through their sanctifying effect. Don't be afraid of problems or of sin. The problems, or spiritual attacks, in life are really opportunities to defeat Satan. In these problems or attacks, Satan has revealed his hand, giving us clear direction on how to defeat him. God helps us fight fear and make the choices that win success.

God never causes us to fail. The cause of failure is sin, and that started with Adam. It's in our family tree, and in our life, and it will eventually surface. Why not let God perfect us as we face and defeat our fears?

How many of us can honestly say that we don't like admitting we made a mistake or failed? Do you know why? Because we have fear of man and of rejection, and we don't want anybody to know we're weak.

God knows that we are weak, and that our human frame is but dust. "For He knoweth our frame; He remembereth that we are dust" (Psalms 103:14). He made provision through Jesus Christ for our infirmities, which are human weaknesses. II Corinthians 13:19 says, "For we are glad, when we are weak, and ye are strong: and this also we wish, even your perfection." In Christ, fear can be dealt a deadly blow. It can be faced head on. But denial is an act of fear.

We must consider one more fear: fear of abandonment. Fear of abandonment gains access to us through several life events. Children conceived or born out of wedlock and of divorced parents fear abandonment. If there has been or is arguing and strife in the home, the children will be plagued with spirits of fear, rejection, and abandonment. They often feel rejected and abandoned by one of their parents, or both. A parent's death often has the same result.



Principality of Fear

Fears That Torment Us (continued)

Women fear abandonment by their husbands. The Scriptures teach that the woman was created for the man. The woman was to be a helpmate who followed the Godly leadership of her husband. The man was created to be the leader of the family.

When the man's protection, safety, and security by which she is covered are stripped away, the spirit of fear moves in immediately to oppress her. When the family's protector flees or fails, she becomes fearful and distrustful. Her distrust lingers for a long time.

God intended for every wife and child to dwell safely in the father and husband's presence. God appointed the husband to be the guard dog at the door. God enabled him to handle all manner of problems, and provide the family's safety net.

This is the picture of Christ in Isaiah 54, the husband who cares for and protects His bride. Men need to be the husbands and fathers God has asked them to be.

Titus 2 gives a picture of a vital church, ministering to its various age groups. It shows older, more mature women caring for the younger single women, admonishing and teaching them. The covering for these ministering women is their husband, and over him, the Lord. The church and the family are like an umbrella, spreading out and protecting those beneath it. If the church practiced what Scripture teaches, there would be no abandonment issues with which to deal.

James 1:27 says, "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world."

When death or disease takes away the man's protection from the woman and her family, God has made provision for them through "pure religion" – ministering to them by other believers. In the Old Testament, the widow was taken as a wife by the man's surviving brother or other male relative. Is there any less reason that in New Testament times, spiritual brothers shouldn't care for the widows? Of course not.

When the accusing spirit of fear starts to speak to us, it replaces our thoughts and feelings with its own. We need discernment to know these are not our thoughts. We are not to fear; we are to be strong in Christ.

When God viewed His creation, He called Adam and Eve "very good." He didn't look down and say, "This is my beloved creation, Fear, who is very good." He didn't say, "These are my beloved children, filled with self-hatred and fear, and I am so happy for them."

If God wanted us to fear, Psalms 34 wouldn't say that He would deliver us from it. II Timothy 1:7 says, "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." God did not give us a spirit of fear, so fear should have no home in us. God would never deliver us from something that He created in us.



Principality of Fear

What Is Fear?

So what is fear? Fear is our enemy. It's a vital part of Satan's kingdom and his desire to control us and to steal our faith. He desires to send a plague of unbelief doubt, binding us down with disease so he can defeat God.

God intends for us to stand and face our enemies, never to flee from them. If we run from an enemy, it is a spirit of fear that takes us away. Facing fear is uncomfortable and painful, but not facing fear results in spiritual cancer. Fear grows and festers, becoming ever more painful until we experience spiritual death. Instead, facing fear is the ultimate therapy. Once fear is extinguished, we experience freedom, joy, and life.

God's grace and mercy are sufficient to meet and defeat every enemy in our life. He already gave us the victory, but we must appropriate it! God's will is that the devil should have no legal right to our lives. We give Satan a legal right through our sin. God's desire is that we turn from the sin of fear, walk the narrow path of repentance and sanctification, and live a victorious life.

Keep Philippians 2:12 in mind. "Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling."

II Corinthians 3:18 reminds us that as believers, we're being changed: "But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord."

We are to crucify our flesh. God Himself will be its executioner. Romans 6:6 says, "Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin." Jesus provided the way but in our free will we must chose to do it.

We're to deal with the earthly kingdom, which Satan rules, that we inherited through Adam. It's a real part of our life that we need to be able to identify and defeat. That brings us into the next stage.





Principality of Fear

Fear And Faith Are Equal: One Will Always Replace The Other

Fear is a form of occultism. It is a counterfeit, the opposite of what God teaches. Fear comes from a lack of faith. Listed below are specific fears that provide armor to the principality of fear. Please read through this list and identify any fear you may be struggling with. This is not a comprehensive list; feel free to add to it.

As you work through this list it will stir up memories. You may need to deal with them. For example, you might remember watching a horror movie and a certain scene sticks in your mind. You should repent for allowing that evil to enter your mind and command it to leave. Or you may recall a bitterness or resentment against someone. If so, confess it, repent of it, and forgive them.

Fear

Holy Spirit Response

Anxiety and stress (fear)

Controlling others

Distress

Distrust

Dread: projection of evil
into the future

Drivenness (Overachiever)

Fear of a wasted life

Fear of abandoning others

Fear of abandonment

Fear of animals

Fear of another's bitterness

Fear of another's words

Fear of authority

Fear of bad news

Fear of being alone

Fear of being controlled

Fear of being free

Fear of being robbed

Fear of being shamed

Fear of betrayal

Fear of bigotry

Fear of blood

Fear of buildings

Fear of change

Fear of commitment

Fear of criticism

Fear of death

Fear of deliverance

Fear of dependency

Fear of disability



Principality of Fear

Fear And Faith Are Equal: One Will Always Replace The Other (continued)

Fear	Holy Spirit Response
Fear of disapproval	_____
Fear of disease	_____
Fear of disfigurement	_____
Fear of doctors/hospitals	_____
Fear of driving	_____
Fear of dying prematurely	_____
Fear of everything/ free-floating anxiety	_____
Fear of evil	_____
Fear of facial expressions	_____
Fear of failure	_____
Fear of father	_____
Fear of fear	_____
Fear of foods, clothes, i.e. allergies	_____
Fear of germs	_____
Fear of God/afraid of Him	_____
Fear of harassment	_____
Fear of humiliation	_____
Fear of inadequacy	_____
Fear of insanity	_____
Fear of intercourse or sex	_____
Fear of judgment	_____
Fear of lack of food, clothes, etc.	_____
Fear of loneliness	_____
Fear of losing children	_____
Fear of losing life	_____
Fear of losing salvation	_____
Fear of loss of confidence	_____
Fear of loss of relationships	_____
Fear of loss of sexual ability	_____
Fear of man	_____
Fear of menopause	_____
Fear of mother	_____
Fear of natural disasters	_____
Fear of noises	_____
Fear of not being free	_____
Fear of own sexuality	_____
Fear of pain	_____
Fear of poverty	_____
Fear of pregnancy	_____
Fear of public speaking	_____



Principality of Fear

Fear And Faith Are Equal: One Will Always Replace The Other (continued)

Now that you have identified various fears, it's time to get rid of them. This is the type of prayer you can pray, asking God to defeat these fears:

Prayer For Overcoming Fear

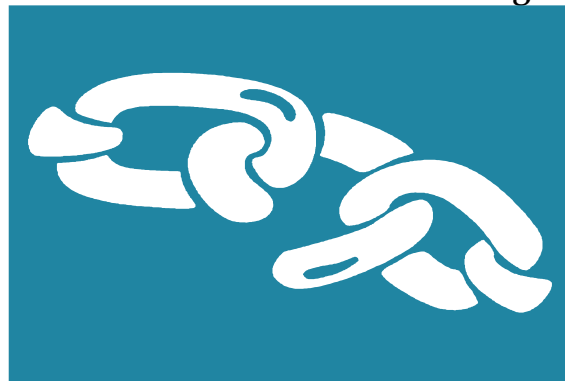
Heavenly Father, in the name of Jesus, I confess, and repent for allowing the (specific fear) in my life, and I repent for all my generations. I ask You, Lord Jesus, to forgive me. I purpose and choose to forgive myself, from my heart, for allowing this (specific fear) in my life and I release myself from this fear. In the name of Jesus, and by the power of His blood, I cancel all of Satan's authority over me in this fear. In the name of Jesus, I command this fear to go.

Holy Spirit, I invite you into my heart to heal me of this fear. Please speak your words of truth to me about this situation.

While you are praying this, the Holy Spirit might speak to you. Write down what the Holy Spirit spoke to you or what He did in you. This is His testimony to you. When you have prayed through each individual fear, command the principality of fear to go in Jesus' name.

God gave you the power and authority of His Son, Jesus Christ, to defeat fear. His Holy Spirit joins with yours to drive Satan's influence out of your life. You can live in courageous victory!

You Are Now Loosed From The Bondage of Fear!





BFOF Study Guide

Topic: Principality of Fear

May 16th - May 22nd

Study Guide Goals:

- To establish that fear is a sin, and to learn how to defeat it.
- To replace the spirit of fear with a spirit of love. 1 John 4:18

To Think About:

What is the dictionary definition of fear?

Being anxious or worried are synonyms for fear. Can you think of others?

What does it mean to "fear" God?

What is the definition of the Greek word "deilos"?

Why are fear and unbelief linked together?

Why is fear the opposite of faith?

Read II Timothy 1:7. Is it a sin to be fearful?

Where does I John 4:18 say fear finds entrance?

What does perfect love do?



BFOF Study Guide
Topic: Principality of Fear
May 16th - May 22nd

According to Revelation 21:8 where will the fearful and unbelieving spend eternity?

How does fear give Satan a foothold in our lives?

As a believer, how does fear enter our lives?

What is a common problem of believers who have allowed violence and evil in their life?

What medical problems are common among people who have allowed the spirit of fear in their life? List several anxiety and stress disorders.

What is the "Red Zone"?

What four conditions usually are at the very root of a severe fear disorder?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

How is Isaiah 54 an answer to the fear of abandonment?

Why is faith and fear equal?



BFOF Study Guide

Topic: Principality of Fear

May 16th – May 22nd

Personal Responsibility:

Ask God to bring to your mind every fear in your life and make a list. Review the list of fears in the text and identify any that are in your life. Add these to what the Holy Spirit has shown you and pray through each fear individually.

Application:

Pray through each fear which God has revealed to you using this suggested prayer.

Dear Heavenly Father, in the name of Jesus I ask you to forgive me for (specific fear). Father forgive me for not trusting you.

I purpose and choose to forgive myself and release myself from (same as above). In the name of Jesus I cancel all of Satan's power and authority over me in this fear in my life and in all my generations, because God has forgiven me and I have forgiven myself.

Holy Spirit please come and heal my heart. And tell me your truth about this situation.

Write down what the Holy Spirit reveals to you.

