

Trust Triumphs Over Fear

Luke was playing on our bedroom floor, sitting in a cardboard box full of his toys with a blanket over his head. As his mother left the room and I headed for the door Luke asked, "Where are you going?"

"Momma went downstairs to get something to eat and I'm going downstairs to work," I replied.

"But I'm scared," Luke responded.

"Scared of what?" I asked. "There's nothing to be afraid of. Momma and I are downstairs. No one is going to hurt you."

"I'm scared to be up here by myself."

Then I, foolishly thinking I could be rational about a five year old's fears asked, "If you're up here by yourself, then who are you afraid of?"

"I'm scared," he answered emphatically.

We all three ended up downstairs.

Fear can be crippling. No one likes to be afraid. I wish I were never afraid. But sometimes, just like Luke, there are times when fear swallows my soul and shrouds me in darkness.

As a loving father, my desire was to comfort Luke's fear with the assurance that he could trust me and no harm would come to him. While he may have understood that with his mind, his heart just couldn't get on the same page. He was afraid and unsure that he could trust me.

I've been there. My heavenly Father, comes to me and says, "Adam, don't be afraid." But I haven't always and don't always trust Him.

I should. He knows my name. He knows how many hairs call my head home. He knows my fears. He has demonstrated time and again that He is in control and will take care of me. I simply need to trust Him more.

As David reflected on his Oscar-worthy performance before Achish the King of Gath (1 Samuel 21:10-15), he recalled the fear he felt. He later wrote about that experience in one of his psalms and said, "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?" (Psalm 56:3-4).

Notice in the first sentence that fear came first and then trust. That's good, but the second sentence is better because trust comes first and then fear never appears.

Trust triumphs over fear. The more I trust the God of my praise, the less I fear. Truth be told, fear is finished when I live by faith in the son of God who loved me and gave himself for me.

Adam Davis,
Williamsburg Church of Christ
Williamsburg, VA



That meets at 215 South Thomas Ave, Sayre, PA 18840
(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, evangelist- (607) 280-1732

January 31, 2016

WELCOME!

Sunday Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Class- 6:30 p.m.



Today's Sermon: *May I Call You Friend?*

- Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.
- Bulletins are archived on the website.

valleycitieschurchofchrist.org
aicoc.org

Scripture: Acts 10:23-33

Hymns: 968 O They Tell Me of a Home; **3** Hallelujah Praise Jehovah; **791** On Bended Knee; **699** I'll Be a Friend to Jesus; **800** What a Friend We Have in Jesus

UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Ladies Class**, Tuesday, February 2nd. Sandy will lead the lesson on the third chapter of Esther.
- Potluck Dinner- Sunday, February 21st.
- Spiritual Giftedness Seminar- April 23-25. Doug Hamilton from the Camp Hill church will present this program here at Valley Cities.



- Our church received a substantial gift of money from a group of individuals in the Camp Hill, PA church.
 - An exploratory team from the Antioch Initiative will be coming up to Tunkhannock, PA the first week in May to start making plans to plant a church there.
 - There will be a campaign in June to contact all interested people in the Tunkhannock area for Bible studies and worship.
 - **FIFTH SUNDAY SINGING** will be at Endwell TODAY, starting at 4:30 this afternoon.
- Some people who say 'Our Father' on Sunday go around the rest of the week acting like orphans.

PRAYERS...

- Linda Hicks needs to have a procedure done on her spine that allows her to self medicate for pain.
- Darla Towell, Katie Barry's aunt, from the church in Soldotna, AK, has cancer in her liver and pancreas.
- Lori Kashorek, wife of Doug, the preacher at the church in Plattsburg, has had a recurrence of lung cancer, which she first had several years ago. She has begun chemo and plans to continue her teaching job as long as she is able. She has asked for prayers.
- Please pray for the outreach effort of the Antioch Initiative to start a church in Tunkhannock, PA in the spring.
- Ted Chacona was still sick with a bad cold last week.
- Joe Perry, of Atlanta, GA, brother of Joe Perry of Anchor Point, AK, who suffered heart failure last Friday, has been removed from life support and passed away a few days ago. He was 66.
- Linda Hicks has a little 4-year-old neighbor girl, Rayne, who was born without a chemical in her brain that controls levels of excitement. Pray that her doctors can remedy the situation, as her heart could stop if left untreated.
- Felicity Hicks has pneumonia, and is being treated with antibiotics.

If you have any prayers or news that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy Barry barnecat7237@gmail.com or text or call (607) 261-0911.

❖ *If you see a friend without a smile, please*

give him one of yours.

