

DO NOT BE AFRAID

September 5, 21 | Luke 12:1-12 | Pastor Michael Foster

When the plot thickens, hear Jesus and...

- Fear the one who matters most (vv. 4-5)

*Fear = Responsiveness Rooted in Reverent Relationship

- Know you are intimately loved (vv. 6-7)

- Publicly profess your love for Jesus (vv. 8-10)

*Blasphemy of the Spirit = Persistently and deliberately rejecting the witness of the Holy Spirit that Jesus is God and Savior, and therefore rejecting the offer of salvation through faith in Jesus.

- Trust God to provide at your hour of greatest need (vv. 11-12)

FOR FURTHER REFLECTION

- Meditate on the rest of Luke 12. Memorize Philippians 4:6-7.
- Read “What does it mean to fear the Lord” - www.olivetree.com/blog/what-does-it-mean-to-fear-the-lord/
- Read “God knows every hair on your head” - www.lifeway.com/en/articles/god-knows-every-hair-on-your-head-revealed-overcomer Read “Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit” - www.ligonier.org/learn/devotionals/blasphemy-against-holy-spirit
- Listen to “Red Sea Road” - www.youtube.com/watch?v=5YYsmU8Oo_U

- Listen to “He Will” - www.youtube.com/watch?v=fn4qY0pC4Z4
- Listen to “His Eye is on the Sparrow” - www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ei84uOUI2SY
- Read When I am Afraid by Ed Welch

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out to you most from the message?
2. Can you relate to the idea of how the “plot thickens” at times in our spiritual journeys? Describe a time when you realized that following Christ might be more interesting or challenging than you realized.
3. If you were being honest... what is something you worry about more than you should?
4. Read Galatians 1:10. Why do you think it is so hard to focus on pleasing God more than pleasing others? What might help us to grow a healthy fear of the Lord?
5. What does it mean to you that Jesus knows the number of hairs on your head?
6. Read Psalm 56:8-11 which describes how God “collects our tears.” What does it mean to you that God has cared about your every tear?
7. Have you ever worried that you would commit an unforgivable sin? Based on what we heard today, is it possible for a believer in Christ to commit an unforgivable sin? Explain.
8. Have you ever felt guilty for not knowing if you would be able to stand up for Jesus in the face of great persecution or threat of martyrdom? How should the promise of Jesus in Luke 12:11-12 encourage our hearts about this?
9. What is one specific way God has shown you that He will show up “on time” and provide exactly what you need?
10. What is one specific thing you need to trust the Lord for right now? How can you place your trust in Him? (Consider Philippians 4:6-7, 1 Peter 5:7).