

# **Fear**

## **Fear Of Others (Week 1)**

### *LifeGroup Notes*

## **TALK IT OVER**

### **Week One**

What were your thoughts and feelings during the opening video?

### **Key Scriptures**

*In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him.*

Luke 10:30-33

### **Fear of others:**

1. Fractures our hearts.
2. Erases our sense of purpose.
3. Undermines our communities.

### **From the passage:**

1. The "robbers" scarcity mindset caused them to fear the success of others.
2. The Priest's fear of others led him to abdicate his role.
3. The Levite's fear of others led him to sacrifice community for self-preservation.

*The fear of others can silent the best of us.*

### **Series Memory Verse:**

*For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. 2 Timothy 1:7 NIV*

### **Start talking.**

- Describe a scenario where you have been afraid of others.
- How has that experience impacted you?
- Why is it often so easy for us to categorize others?

### **Start thinking.** (Ask questions to get your group thinking.)

- Read Luke 10:25-37. This all begins with a question about eternal life. Loving God makes sense (vs. 27). Why does loving my neighbor impact my eternity?
- What is the man's reasoning behind his question in verse 29?
- Why didn't Jesus simply reply, "Everyone is your neighbor"? Why answer with the story?
- Though it may be hard to admit, where do you see parts of yourself in the story?

### **Start sharing.**

- How does the fear of others fracture our hearts?
- In what ways does the fear of others cause you to abdicate your role as a follower and representative of Jesus?
- When the fear of others takes root, how does that undermine communities?
- Why is it often easier to remain silent when confronted with the injustice and needs of others?

### **Start doing.**

Overcoming the Fear Of Others requires us to:

- Take an honest look at our hearts. Read Psalm 139:23-24
  - How can you begin to shift your heart *towards* those that are different from you?
- Pray for greater vision.
  - Ask God to open your eyes to the needs of those different than you. As God answers, share that with your group.
- Be strong and courageous as you lean in.
  - Read James 2:14-17 Jesus' Spirit in us must result in not just different *thinking*, but also, different *doing*. What specific and tangible step can you take toward someone that is different from you this week?

### **Start praying.**

Prayer is the greatest work we do! Pray together and with expectation that God will soften your hearts and draw you closer to the needs of those different than you. **The Spirit overcomes what fear fractures!**