
Upcoming Events

Church Retreat at Tulsa, OK, June 26-28

Vacation Bible School (VBS) at Metro July 22 - 25

Weekly Schedule

Fri, May 8th (Mesquite) Fasting Prayer @ Parsonage (10 AM)

Sat, May 9th (Metro) Family Training Hour (FTH) @ Metro (6:30 PM)

FTH Quiz & Metro Kids Piggy Bank Project

Adult Quiz: Job 11 -20 & Kids Quiz: Acts 15 - 21

All Metro Kids, please bring in your piggy bank collection to FTH this Saturday.
The money you collected will be used to support Soundaraya & Maliha in India.

Prayer for the Nations: Equatorial Guinea (Africa)*

- Independence from Spain came in 1978, with the realisation that the country was completely bankrupt. Nguema came to power and began a reign of terror that lasted for seven years; thousands of people were tortured or killed in prison or in labour camps, priests were arrested and all the schools and churches were closed down. Even being a journalist was an offence punishable by death.
- By 1979, when Nguema was executed, two-thirds of the population had been killed or had left the country.
- Equatorial Guinea has attempted to rebuild the country, but corruption is still a massive problem – and most people think that vote fixing is still widespread. Democracy is not as real as it seems.
- Huge offshore oil reserves could really make a difference for Equatorial Guinea, but any money is only really likely to benefit the wealthiest.
- Pray for an end to all corruption and injustice.
- During the '70s church leaders were persecuted and many were forced to compromise their faith. Pray that a new generation of leaders can stand firm and have the courage to put God first in every part of their life.
- Since the '80s there has been more freedom for churches to share the gospel and the number of missionaries is increasing. Pray for wisdom and sensitivity as they tell people about Jesus and that their actions would be as loving and life changing as their words.

* http://operationworld.24-7prayer.com/country.php?country_id=70

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of God



*Celebrating the Presence of God
Demonstrating the Love of God
Communicating the Word of God
Educating the People of God*

May 3, 2009

Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of thy name: and deliver us, and purge away our sins, for thy name's sake. So we thy people and sheep of thy pasture will give thee thanks for ever: we will shew forth thy praise to all generations. (Ps 79:9,13)

Welcome

The phrase “fearing God” conjures up a lot of misunderstandings. The word 'fear' used here is not about phobias or being irrationally frightened or scared -- which is often how we're used to using the term. And so fearing God does not mean that we are scared of an impersonal, mean, cruel, all-powerful, uncaring force who could smite us at any moment.

Believers are not to be “scared” of God. We have no reason to be scared of Him. In the book of Romans, we have His promise that nothing can separate us from His love. Hebrews 13:5 states that we have His promise that He will never leave us or forsake us. Fearing God means having such a reverence for Him, that it has a great impact on the way we live our lives. The fear of God means living a life respecting Him, submitting to His discipline, and worshipping Him in awe.

Why should we fear the Lord?

We recognize that God deserves our worship. He is our all-mighty, all-powerful, all-knowing Creator who is completely holy, which means He is utterly perfect, pure and different from us (because we are sinful, imperfect, impure and corrupt). We also recognize that, as sinful human beings who have rebelled against God and chosen not to go His way or acknowledge Him as Lord of our life, He owes us nothing except to judge us and allow us to continue in our sinful ways for all eternity and face His eternal wrath -- but that in His amazing love and grace, He chose to make a way for forgiveness and redemption possible through the death of His Son, Jesus Christ.

Also, fearing God is for our benefit. Proverbs 1:7 declares, “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge...” Until we understand who God is, and develop a reverential fear of Him, we cannot have true wisdom. True wisdom comes only from understanding who God is - that He is holy, just, and righteous. Deuteronomy 10: 12, 20-21 records, "Now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require from you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways and love Him, and to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, You shall fear the Lord your God; you shall serve Him and cling to Him, and you shall swear by His name. He is your praise and He is your God, who has done these great and awesome things for you which your eyes have seen." The fear of God is the basis for our walking in His ways, serving Him, and yes, loving Him.

Finally, when you fear God you fear nothing else; you are free! Free from the fear that men cast in this world, free from the control that others have over you, free to walk in humble obedience to God, free from the impossibility of caring about pleasing every single person. It is only once we fear the Lord that we are able to truly love and serve the people of the world as Christ commanded.

In Christ Alone,
Sandeep Sebastian

Sermon Notes