



Trust Issues - Week 1

Message Discussion Questions

Introduction:

This week Matt begins a new series we're calling Trust Issues. Do you have trust issues? How would you know, what does it look like when you don't trust God?

For Part 1 we're looking at Cafeteria Christianity and what it looks like when you decide to pick and choose what to believe. How does this impact your trust, would this be different if you feared God?

Questions:

1. Are you like most people in the world around us, and even in the church, that have lost the fear of the Lord? Do you fear the Lord, or do you want just enough of God to keep you out of hell and get you into heaven, but not so much of God that you have to change the way you live? 2 Timothy 3:1-5; Proverbs 9:10
2. If you believe in God but you don't fear Him, do you have a Cafeteria Christianity where you pick and choose what you decide to believe? Do you want His grace, but not His holiness that requires you to live a holy life? You'll take His love but not His judgment? Do you want 'my God, my way'? Are you missing the fear of God to restrain you? Psalm 36:1-2; Roman's 3:10; Jeremiah 17:9
3. How would you define the 'fear of God'? Do you not fear Him because you really don't know Him? What would change if you saw God as He really is? Would that cause you to stand in awe of Him? What if the better you get to know God the more your "wow" factor increases? Can you see Him as the God of the universe who created all things?

4. If you do fear God, what does it look like for you to obey Him wholeheartedly without any conditions? How amazing was the faith and obedience of Abraham, how did he show that he feared God? Are you really able to obey Him no matter what, or will you obey Him but only with certain limits? Genesis 22:12
5. Would you say that you love God? How is obedience tied to the love of God? What if the greatest evidence of the fear of God is obedience to God? Do you say that you love God but you still want to live the way that you want? What is required of you to be obedient to God? John 14:15
6. What is God calling you to do that you're not willing to do? Is there something He wants you to do but you just can't take that step? Is your love and obedience to God conditional or unconditional? Are you waiting for God to do something for you before you are obedient?
7. What does it mean that: 'when you truly fear God you'll be forever ruined'? Have you been ruined yet, has your life and focus been forever changed? Is the problem that you haven't been ruined because you really don't know God for who He truly is? Are you ready to be ruined and then say to God 'here am I, send me'? Isaiah 6:1-5; Isaiah 6:8

Key Takeaway: *You can't experience God's presence in your life without it changing you, without it causing you to become more obedient; without it causing you to desire to become more like Him. We use Christianity as a crutch. We see God as a genie in a bottle. It's a consumeristic mentality and it's not Biblical Christianity. We say we trust in God, but we have trust issues. We don't fear Him. We don't see Him for who He really is. He doesn't affect the way we live, we haven't been ruined yet.*

Summary:

- Have we lost the fear of the Lord?
- Do you have Cafeteria Christianity = picking and choosing what you want to believe
- The better you know God the more your "wow" factor increases
- When you fear God you'll obey Him wholeheartedly without any conditions
- The greatest evidence of the fear of God is obedience to God
- What is God calling you to do that you're not willing to do?
- When you truly fear God you'll forever be ruined