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This study guide is to be used in conjunction with *Fear Not: Finding Courage to Be Who God Wants You to Be* by Ed Love (Indianapolis: Wesleyan Publishing House, 2014).

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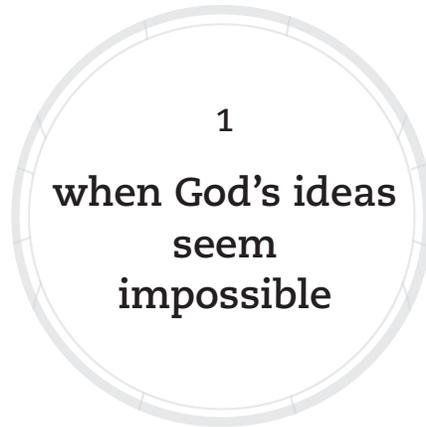
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Ed Love's book, *Fear Not*, forms the basis of this ten-week group study. Written in a conversational style, *Fear Not* uses biblical truth, inspiration, and practical application to address ten of our most common fears. This study guide is designed to help your group members interact openly with one another and discover how they can replace fear with resolute faith.



to the facilitator

Begin this session with a brief get-acquainted time. Ask each person to share three important facts about him- or herself.

focus on God's Word

What we may think is impossible is possible with God. All things are possible with him. Zechariah was one of twenty thousand priests, of which that group was divided into twenty-four sections. Temple duty for two weeks was determined by lottery, and every priest hoped for the opportunity to minister in the temple. Zechariah had won the lottery. He was standing at the altar of incense when an angel startled him, but the angel told him not to fear, and announced that Zechariah and his wife Elizabeth would have a son, whom Zechariah should name John.

Zechariah and his wife must have been praying for years for a son, but now the prospect of having a son seemed impossible. Nevertheless, the angel's message displaced the impossible with God's possible. John, the promised son, would prepare Israel for the coming Messiah. But, knowing he and his wife were elderly, Zechariah doubted and was struck mute (Luke 1:11–22). When he emerged from the temple, he could not speak but only gesture to the waiting crowd. He would not be able to speak until his wife delivered the promised son. He wrote on a tablet for all to see, "His name is John" (Luke 1:63), and then "he began to speak, praising God" (v. 64).

On page 35 of *Fear Not*, Ed Love observes: "Zechariah needed to learn a few things about how God works in order for him to overcome his fears. He needed to learn how to trust in God and God's timing."

focus on life

Discuss the following with your group.

1. What or whom do you occasionally fear more than God? How do you explain this phenomenon?
2. Why do you agree or disagree that fear can serve as a positive influence in our lives?
3. When does fear become a negative influence?
4. What differences, if any, do you see between a healthy fear of God and an unhealthy fear of God?
5. Have you ever exhibited an unhealthy fear of God? If so, what were the circumstances and the results?
6. How might parents teach their children to have a healthy fear of God?
7. What impossible situation are you facing now that you believe is not impossible for God to resolve?
8. Zechariah and Elizabeth had prayed for a son until it was impossible for them to have a son. However, God answered in an unexpected and wonderful way. What truths for your own prayers can you apply from this event?

wrap-up

Have your group read or sing “Nothing Is Impossible with God!” Or, ask each group member to complete the sentence: “When I reach the end of my rope . . .”



2

**when you
feel inadequate**

to the facilitator

Ask the group if they have felt inadequate to take on a responsibility for God regardless of the Bible's assuring promises. Explain that this lesson zeroes-in on a young virgin who felt inadequate for the enormous responsibility God assigned to her.

focus on God's Word

When God prepared history for the entrance of the Savior, he did not choose to introduce him as a monarch but as a baby, and he chose a young virgin by the name of Mary to deliver that baby.

The same angel, Gabriel, who had appeared to Zechariah with the news that God would do the impossible by giving Zechariah and Elizabeth a son, appeared to Mary when Elizabeth was six months pregnant. He told Mary not to fear (Luke 1:30), and announced that she would become pregnant and bear a son, whom she was commanded to name "Jesus," meaning Savior (v. 31). Gabriel identified Jesus as the Son of God and heir to the throne of David (v. 33).

When Mary confessed her inadequacy because she was a virgin, Gabriel explained that she would conceive by the power of the Holy Spirit and her cousin Elizabeth was six months pregnant (vv. 34–36). He assured Mary that nothing is impossible with God (v. 37).

In full compliance with God's will, Mary called herself the Lord's servant and said, "May your word to me be fulfilled" (v. 38).

Soon, Mary was on her way to visit her cousin Elizabeth in the Judean hill country (vv. 39–40).

Ed Love comments on both Mary's feeling of inadequacy and her submissive response to God's call: "In this holy moment, we can imagine Mary felt extremely inadequate but regardless of how she felt, she confidently responded, 'I am the Lord's servant.' Mary's response tips us off to the fact that she was living in a posture of readiness. She was ready to be used by God. She didn't know it, but she had been preparing for that day for many years" (*Fear Not*, p. 43).

focus on life

Discuss the following with your group.

1. Do you think Mary had legitimate reasons to object to Gabriel's announcement that she would become pregnant? Why or why not?
2. Why do you agree or disagree that no one is adequate to serve God?
3. Read 2 Corinthians 12:7–10. What compensated for Paul's feeling of inadequacy? How has God compensated for your feeling of inadequacy?
4. What might happen if you felt totally adequate to assume a task God wanted you to perform?
5. Based on Gabriel's identification of Jesus, how would you attempt to disprove the notion that Jesus was just a man?
6. How will you demonstrate this week that you are God's servant and committed to his will?
7. When God calls you to do something for him, is it all right to ask questions of him? Why or why not?
8. What inadequacy will you trust God to overcome this week?

wrap-up

Have your group read or sing, "Have Thine Own Way." Or, challenge each member to list his or her assumed inadequacies and then write over them, "Nothing is impossible with God."

3

**when bad news
is about
to hit home**

to the facilitator

Ask the group what bad news they have received recently via TV, newspaper, or radio. Ask volunteers to share personal bad news and how they handled it. Bad news is extremely unwelcome, however, God is able to help us cope with it. This session focuses on the best way to respond to bad news.

focus on God's Word

A group of shepherds had every reason to expect bad news to hit them. It was dark, probably chilly, and they were tending their sheep outdoors not far from Bethlehem. They were terrified when the night sky suddenly lit up brilliantly. However, the glory of God was the light, and an angel of the Lord appeared to them. The angel advised the trembling shepherds to fear not. It was not bad news hitting home. It was good news, the best news the world has ever received. The Savior was born, and the shepherds were instructed to visit the site of his birth and see him (Luke 2:8–12).

Thousands of years earlier, Job, a righteous rancher received bad news. It hit home several times. A steady stream of messengers reported he had lost his house, oxen, donkeys, sheep, camels, sons, daughters, and most of his hired hands (Job 1:13–19). But Job handled the bad news with unflinching faith. Instead of blaming God, he knelt and worshiped. He said, “Naked I came from my mother’s womb, and naked I will depart. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised” (Job 1:20–21).

Job’s faith had prepared him for bad news and, therefore, when it came, he handled it triumphantly. At the end of the tragedies that befell Job, God gave him the opportunity to pray for his “friends.” He also gave him a revelation of God, and he restored double what he had lost. Plus, he gave Job seven sons and three daughters. Job lived another 140 years, seeing his descendants to the fourth generation (Job 42:12–16).

focus on life

Discuss the following with your group.

1. When bad news strikes, which do people usually blame: themselves, the Devil, bad luck, no one, the presence of evil in the world, God, something else? Defend your answer.
2. Why do you agree or disagree that God is not the author of bad news?
3. Job was a righteous man, but he suffered enormous tragedies. Why do bad things happen to good people?
4. What might prepare you to respond triumphantly to bad news?
5. How does responding to bad news differ from reacting to it?
6. If a Christian loses a house to a flood, fire, or tornado, should he or she expect God to give another house? Why or why not?
7. Why do you agree or disagree that a trouble-free life is a sign of spirituality?
8. How would you encourage a Christian businessman whose business just entered bankruptcy?

wrap-up

Have your group read or sing, “God Leads His Dear Children Along.” Allow volunteers to request prayer about bad news they recently received. Ask someone to pray about each request.

4

**when you feel
like you've
let down God**

to the facilitator

Ask the group whether they have watched a field goal kicker miss a field goal that would have won the game for the team. Or did they see a basketball player miss a basket at the final buzzer that would have won the game? Do you think that person felt he or she had let down the team? Explain that we Christians sometimes feel like we have let down God, but this session offers practical advice for us in that situation.

focus on God's Word

On page 65 of *Fear Not*, Ed Love comments: "Let's face it. We *will* let down God again and again, but what lets down God more is if we don't make an effort to try again. Proverbs 24:16 says, 'For though the righteous fall seven times, they rise again.'"

Even the apostle Paul let down God occasionally. He knew God wanted him to be holy, and he wanted to be holy too, but he gave in to his sinful nature and failed to live a holy life (see Rom. 7:14–25).

The apostle Peter also let down God. Luke 5:1–11 tells the story of a failed all-night fishing expedition he and his partners were involved in. They had given up and were washing their nets, when Jesus instructed them to push away from the shore again and lower their nets. This time they caught so many fish their nets and boats teemed with fish.

The fishermen were amazed at what Jesus did, and after returning to the shore Peter fell at Jesus' feet and advised him to depart from him. "I am a sinful man," he confessed (v. 8). But Jesus said, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people" (v. 10). After pulling the boats to the shore, Peter and his partners left everything behind and followed Jesus. Although Peter must have felt unworthy and a failure that had let down Jesus by first objecting to Jesus' instruction to "try again," Jesus had not given up on him.

Psalms 32:3–5 shows how responsive God is to sincere repentance of sin. King David had tried to conceal his sin, but when he repented and confessed it, God forgave him. As Jesus proved by calling repentant Peter to follow him, God is the God of second chances. Ed Love rightly concludes: "After

we experience the transformation of repentance, like Simon Peter, we can get up off our knees, leave our nets, and follow Jesus, with a deeper desire to obey his commands” (*Fear Not*, p. 70).

focus on life

Discuss the following with your group.

1. What do you believe is the most common way Christians let down God?
2. How do you feel when you let down God? What should you do when you feel that way?
3. Why do you agree or disagree that it is a bigger sin when a pastor lets down God?
4. How does it encourage you to know Jesus told Peter to fear not?
5. Do you think it is possible to live one’s entire Christian life without letting down God? Why or why not?
6. What are some effective strategies for not letting down God?
7. What can we learn about ourselves when we let down God?
8. What can we learn about God when we let him down?

wrap-up

Challenge the group members memorize 1 John 1:9 and put it into practice this week whenever they feel like they have let down God.

5

when you don't believe

to the facilitator

This session deals with the issue of our failure to sometimes believe God. Explain that none of us like to have our veracity questioned, so we can imagine how God must feel when we fail to take him at his word. Nevertheless, there is help for our moments of unbelief.

focus on God's Word

A large crowd surrounded Jesus when he returned from the region of the Gadarenes, but two individuals especially captured his attention. One was Jairus, a synagogue official. The other was a woman who had been hemorrhaging for twelve years (Luke 8:43). Jairus urged Jesus to visit his home, because his twelve-year-old daughter was dying. As Jesus proceeded to Jairus's home, the hemorrhaging woman reached from behind and touched the hem of Jesus' garment (v. 44). Immediately her bleeding stopped.

Perceiving that someone had touched him, Jesus asked, "Who touched me?" That's when the healed woman identified herself, and Jesus told her to go in peace. Her faith had healed her (v. 48).

Immediately, someone arrived from Jairus's home with the news Jairus's daughter was dead, and it was pointless to trouble Jesus any longer. But Jesus told Jairus not to fear, just believe, and his daughter would be healed (v. 50).

When Jesus arrived at Jairus's home, he told the mourners to stop wailing. Then he took the child by the hand, raised her up, and commanded the gathering to give her food (vv. 51–55).

Ed Love observes in *Fear Not*: "Jairus is a splendid example of a man who had a choice to believe or not believe. Jairus overcame his fears and chose to believe. When all hope seemed lost—he chose to believe. When the path of healing didn't make sense—he chose to believe. And when everyone else had given up—he chose to believe" (p. 80).

As Love points out, God often calls his people to leave their comfort zones and simply trust God. Abraham leaving Ur (Gen. 12:1), Moses leaving Midian to lead the Hebrews out of Egypt (Ex. 3:12), and young David facing down Goliath (1 Sam. 17:32) are a few examples of this required faith.

focus on life

Discuss the following with your group.

1. When have you found it hard to believe God?
2. Do you think God can use a believer who exhibits a history of doubting him? Why or why not?
3. Both Jairus and the woman with a long history of bleeding trusted Jesus to resolve their desperate situations. What kinds of desperate situations might believers commit by faith to Jesus?
4. What resources might a believer access to build his or her faith?
5. Read Romans 10:17. What builder of faith do you find in this verse? Why do you agree or disagree that the more time we invest in Scripture reading, the more faith we will have?
6. How are a lack faith and fear related?
7. How are faith and the absence of fear related?
8. Why do you agree or disagree that Christian parents model either faith or fear as their children grow up? In what situations can they set the right example for their children?

wrap-up

Distribute paper and pencils to the group, and have each person write a motto for a life of faith.

6

**when you
are worried about
being deprived**

to the facilitator

If possible, provide a snack for group members. Tell them we often have far more than enough to eat, but should we worry that someday we may be deprived of daily needs? Explain that this week's session answers this question.

focus on God's Word

Jesus assured us of our heavenly Father's watchful care. In Luke 12:6–7, he urged us to not be afraid about life's necessities. He said the God who cares for the sparrows values us more than many sparrows. He even keeps track of the number of hairs on our head.

The apostle Peter affirmed what Jesus taught in Luke 12:6–7. Peter asserted that God cares for us, and therefore we should place our burdens on him (1 Pet. 5:7).

The psalmists, too, advised us to pour out our hearts to God, because he is our refuge (Pss. 62:8; 102:1–4), that is, our shelter from danger. Of course, trust in God is a prerequisite to pouring out our hearts to him (Ps. 62:8). He is worthy of our trust, and he cares about everything that concerns us. Faith embraces the promise “that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose” (Rom. 8:28).

On page 95 of *Fear Not*, Ed Love comments: “God is like a junkyard artist; he likes to take messes and make masterpieces. Those who love God don't need to fear being deprived because God will always care for us and use our broken story for something good.”

focus on life

Discuss the following with your group.

1. What reasons do we have to trust God?
2. Read Philippians 4:19. Beyond survival needs (food, clothing, and shelter), what categories of needs do you believe “all your needs” includes?

3. Have you seen a homeless person and thought, “I could be in that situation”? Why do you agree or disagree that such thinking is legitimate?
4. Why do you agree or disagree that worry accomplishes nothing positive?
5. How has God met a specific need in answer to prayer?
6. Have you seen God make a masterpiece out of a mess in someone’s life—perhaps a mess in your life? If so, what did he do?
7. Why do you agree or disagree that we shouldn’t bother God with our little needs?
8. In what practical ways might God use you to help meet someone else’s needs?

wrap-up

Conclude this session by having the group members read or sing, “God Will Take Care of You.”

7

**when salvation
seems
questionable**

to the facilitator

Has anyone in your group been rescued, perhaps from a car crash, possible drowning, a fire, or a medical emergency? Let one or two volunteers share their rescue stories, and then explain that Jesus came into the world to rescue us from sin and ultimately to inaugurate heaven on earth. However, as the world seems to be getting worse, we may question whether Jesus will ever return and terminate evil.

focus on God's Word

Jesus entered Jerusalem for the approaching Feast of Passover (John 12:12; 13:1). Jews had gathered from around the world to celebrate the Passover that involved the slaying of a spotless lamb, commemorating Israel's redemption from Egypt (Ex. 12). Although Jesus was the Lamb God had provided for Israel's redemption and ours, the crowd that welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem, did not recognize him as God's lamb. Instead, the people believed he was the long-anticipated political deliverer. So the crowd spread palm branches in front of him, shouted "Hosanna!" (meaning, "Save now"), and proclaimed him King of Israel (John 12:13; see Ps. 118:25–26). But unlike a conquering king, Jesus rode a donkey, not an impressive white horse (v. 14).

Jesus' humble entrance into Jerusalem fulfilled the prophecy of Zechariah 9:9. The prophet encouraged war-weary Israel to rejoice because the Messiah would come, end wars, and establish peace and prosperity. Of course, the Jerusalem crowd was impatient, wanting immediate relief from Roman domination. As the crowd's accolades swelled, the Pharisees' jealousy and resentment of Jesus also swelled (John 12:18–19).

We may impatiently hope Jesus will make all things right very soon, but it is best to leave this matter in his hands. And while we wait, we ought to let our light shine (Matt. 5:16).

focus on life

Discuss the following with your group.

1. Read Jeremiah 29:11. God had plans for his exiled people. He would restore them in their homeland. What are some plans God has for believers today? Why do you agree or disagree that he is fulfilling those plans today?
2. Do you find it easy or hard to wait for Jesus to return? Explain your answer.
3. Why do you agree or disagree that Jesus is currently a reigning king?
4. How can you persuade nonbelievers to perceive Jesus as the Savior?
5. What hope, if any, do you see for the world?
6. What changes might we expect to see in our lives if we strongly embraced the truth that Jesus will return someday?
7. Read Philippians 3:20–21. Someday Jesus will deliver us from all our pain and suffering. How does this truth affect your current physical trials?
8. How can you wait on the Lord in a manner that pleases him?

wrap-up

Conclude this session by handing a tennis ball to a group member. Ask him or her to complete this statement: “I will wait on the Lord to . . .” Instruct him or her to toss the ball to another person, who should complete the statement. Keep the activity going until silence prevails.



8

**when you feel
like a failure**

to the facilitator

Show a light bulb. Explain that every home has light bulbs, but this might not have been the case if Thomas Edison had succumbed to the fear of failure. Before he invented the light bulb, Edison experienced more than ten thousand failures before he found the right filament. Tell the group this session addresses the fear of failure.

focus on God's Word

The disciples had failed Jesus. They failed to watch and pray in the garden of Gethsemane. Instead of staying alert, they fell asleep (Matt. 26:36–46). When the temple guards and soldiers arrested Jesus, all the disciples deserted him and fled (v. 56). Peter failed Jesus later in the courtyard of the high priest. There, in spite of his prior boast of loyalty to Jesus, he denied Jesus three times (vv. 69–75). Jesus' band of chosen followers had become a band of complete failures. Following the crucifixion, they cloistered together behind locked doors "for fear of the Jewish leaders" (John 20:19). Even after the resurrection, they went back to their old occupation—fishing (21:1–3).

On resurrection morning Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to Jesus' tomb to anoint his body, but an angel of the Lord appeared to them and told them to fear not (Matt. 28:5). No doubt, the appearance of an angel frightened them, but did they also fear that somehow they had failed Jesus? However, their fear quickly vanished. Jesus was alive, and they had received a command to share the good news with the disciples (v. 7).

Centuries before the resurrection, Moses had failed God in Egypt. He had slain an Egyptian and, fearing for his life, fled the country (Ex. 2:11–15). But in Midian, God repurposed Moses. He commissioned him to return to Egypt and lead the Hebrews to freedom (3:1–10). He promised Moses that he, the I AM, would be with him. That promise and the commissioning of Aaron to help Moses turned away Moses' fear. He would return to Egypt (3:14; 4:14–17; 5:1).

focus on life

Discuss the following with your group.

1. Do you think it is better to try and fail than to be afraid to try? Why or why not?
2. What feelings do you think the disciples experienced after failing to support Jesus in the hour of his greatest need?
3. Why do you agree or disagree that fear of failure contributes to the lack of workers in many churches?
4. Which characteristic do you think is more destructive to the Lord's work: fear of failure or overconfidence? Explain.
5. Read Matthew 28:18–20. What motivation do you find in verse 18 for sharing the good news everywhere without fear?
6. Read 1 Timothy 1:12–15. How did Paul's life dramatically change when Jesus saved him? Do you believe Jesus has made or is currently making a masterpiece out of the mess that was once your life? Explain.
7. Moses had failed miserably in Egypt, but God sent him right back to the place of failure. How does this fact encourage you?
8. How does it alleviate your fears to know God is the I AM?

wrap-up

Have a volunteer read aloud 2 Timothy 1:7. Challenge the group to memorize the verse this week.

9

**when
life gets
hard**

to the facilitator

Show the group a soft pillow and a brick. Ask which of these items represents their life. Explain that this session addresses the issue of what to do when life gets hard.

focus on God's Word

Life was never smooth sailing for the apostle Paul. As he spread the gospel, he endured severe persecution and physical hardships, but life became extremely perilous when he was on the high seas en-route to trial in Rome. Acts 27 relates that a powerful wind of hurricane force drove the ship carrying Paul at its will. The storm was so intense that it seemed certain the ship would break apart and sink. None of the sailors' measures availed to save the ship and the lives of those on board (vv. 13–20).

But Paul was not in the storm's grip; he was in God's grip. He addressed the ship's crew and advised them to take courage. The ship would be lost, but no one would die (vv. 21–22). He was confident of these facts, because during the night an angel had told him not to be afraid. The angel assured him he would stand before Caesar, and God had given Paul all the lives on board (vv. 23–24). He told the crew he had faith in God that things would turn out as the angel had predicted (v. 25).

In spite of how hard life got for Paul, he followed Christ and had his eye on the prize that awaited him in heaven (Phil. 3:12–14; 2 Tim. 4:7–8).

On page 132 of *Fear Not*, Ed Love offers the following encouragement to surmount hard times: “Present-living presents us with a gift—the ability to endure any hardship or difficulty with a hope-filled attitude. In 1 Thessalonians 5:16–18, Paul said, ‘Rejoice *always*, pray continually, give thanks in *all* circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus’ (emphasis added). King David said, ‘I will praise the LORD at *all* times. I will *constantly* speak his praises’ (Ps. 34:1 NLT, emphasis added).”

focus on life

Discuss the following with your group.

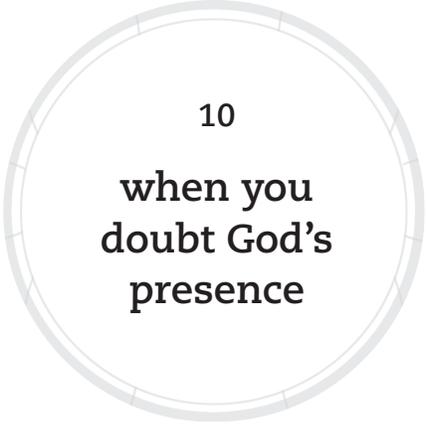
1. Should a believer be surprised if life gets hard? Why or why not?
2. How would you answer a Christian who complains, “If God really loved me, I wouldn’t be going through these hard times”?
3. Why do you agree or disagree that it is wrong to tell someone all his or her problems will be solved if that person would believe in Jesus as Savior?
4. How have hard times helped you grow spiritually?
5. What hope does a Christian have that hard times will end someday?
6. Why do you agree or disagree that a believer can make life hard for him- or herself?
7. Why do you agree or disagree that most righteous Bible characters experienced a hard life?
8. What path will you follow the next time life gets hard? Why that path?

wrap-up

Assure the group that life will never resemble a soft pillow, but they need not fear. Write the following quote on the board or on notecards to hand out before ending the session:

“If we desire our faith to be strengthened, we should not shrink from opportunities where our faith may be tried, and therefore, through trial, be strengthened.”

—George Mueller



10

**when you
doubt God's
presence**

to the facilitator

We cannot see Jesus, but he promised to be with us always (Matt. 28:20). Tell the group we sometimes doubt his presence, but he is still with us.

focus on God's Word

Like the other disciples, John had enjoyed Jesus' presence for more than three years of Jesus' earthly ministry. He was especially close to Jesus, and was a member of the inner circle. After Jesus ascended to heaven, John must have missed the intimacy of listening to Jesus' words and walking and talking with him. But near the end of John's life and ministry, he received a fresh encounter with Jesus. The event took place on Patmos, a lonely island in the Aegean Sea (Rev. 1:9–12). The Roman authorities had banished him to the island because they perceived his teaching to be a threat to the empire.

However, Jesus had not abandoned John. Jesus appeared to John, and once again, John basked in his presence. He described the risen Jesus as so glorious that he fell at his feet as though dead (vv. 13–17). That's when Jesus told John not to be afraid, and identified himself as the eternal One, the conqueror of death, who holds the keys of death and Hades (vv. 17–18).

Jesus had work for John to do. He instructed him to write what he had seen, what was taking place, and what would take place in the future (v. 19). Jesus had a personal message for each of seven churches, and he would dictate those messages to John (Rev. 2–3).

John's banishment may have seemed like the worst thing that ever happened to him, but it led to what may have been the best thing—a highly significant experience of Jesus' presence.

When we don't feel the presence of God, we ought to pour out our hearts to him (Ps. 62:8), as Hannah did in the temple, when she begged God to give her a son (see 1 Sam. 1). Even in the most adverse circumstances, we can rely on God to be present with us (Deut. 31:6). It is also beneficial to remember how God was with us and delivered us in the past (Ex. 15:1–2; Deut. 6:4–9, 12). A good recall of his presence in the past will help us recognize his presence now and in the future.

focus on life

Discuss the following with your group.

1. Have you doubted God's presence? If so, where or when did you most seriously doubt God's presence? Describe the circumstances.
2. Where or when were you most aware of God's presence? Describe the circumstances.
3. Must a believer feel God's presence to know that he is present? Why or why not?
4. Why do you agree or disagree with Ed Love's comment: "We can imagine John had many moments when he felt entirely abandoned by God and feared his absence" (*Fear Not*, p. 139)?
5. When John saw the glorified, risen Jesus, he feared. Do you think Christians will experience fear when we see Jesus in heaven? Why or why not?
6. Read Psalm 139:7–12. How are you affected by the knowledge that God is present everywhere?
7. What past event(s) help you remember that God is with you today?
8. How can you be aware of God's presence when you are at work? How might such awareness affect your job?

wrap-up

Thank the group for participating in the study of *Fear Not*. Conclude this session by having the group members read or sing, "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" or "I Come to the Garden Alone." Challenge them to be bold in their faith and to fear not!