

Review from Last Week

Welch characterizes fear into 3 categories:

1. **Shame Fear** already seen in Adam (Gen 3)

2. **Rejection Fear** Peter (Galatians 2: 11-13)

3. **Threat Fear** David (Ps 142: 1-7)

Looking @ Elijah from 1 Kings 17 – 19 as an example of “Shame Fear”

- Where did the man of God fall down?
 - Answer: he lost his perspective, (1 Kings 17:1)
- Elijah became ashamed before the Lord and covered his face, (1 Kings 19:13)
- He was ashamed because he fell prey to the threats from Jezebel (1 Kings 19:1-3)
- How could we view this as a positive indication of his faith?
 - “as the Lord lives before whom I stand”
 - Wish it were so for me / us
 - Aren’t we more concerned about what people might think/know about us than God?
 - Aren’t we more embarrassed when people see us in sin than God?
 - Consider the truth of Hebrews 4: 12&13 {good memory verse}

What does the world say about this human problem? (**Fearing others**)

- Lack self-esteem
- not **feeling good** about ourselves
- governed by the perceived opinions of others
- Concern that people will find out who we really are
 Small, insignificant, dirty, stupid, unsuccessful.....

This morning’s subject: Rejection Fear

Consider the original list that we made of our fears:

- Fear of making bad / wrong decisions
- Fear of _____
- Fear of _____
- Fear of _____
- Fear of _____
- Fear of _____
- Fear of _____

Welch *“This fear is so active in the heart of the believer that we might actually prefer to die for Jesus rather to live for Him.”*

We are bound to the opinions of others like a slave in shackles.

Why are so “invested” in these opinions? {given even strangers so much power over us}

What is the nature of this need?

Psalm 34:9 “oh fear the Lord you his saints; for those who fear him there is no want”

Introduction of psychological theory known as “**need based theory**” {*man is an empty vessel*}

Three basic types of need [trichotomy] 1 Thess. 5:23 body, soul, spirit

What do we actually need from people?

How can we measure the importance of this?

What is on the other side of the fear? **IDOLATRY** Romans 1:25

- What is an idol?
- What is the nature of an idol?
- What / Who is our idol?

Why does it matter what people think of us? Answer: Our value/worth is determined by our god: Psalm 42:1

[What do we really think that these people/idols can do for us?]_consider 1 Kings 18:26 Baal

Biblical examples:

1. Paul; Gal 1:10, Eph 6:19
2. Titus; Gal 2:1-5
3. Believing Pharisees John 12:42 & 43; Nicodemus John 3:1 & ff
4. Peter; Gal 2:11-21
5. Jesus; Matt 22:16