



Small Group Questions Precious Gift

1. A few weeks ago Mike taught how offense is “the bait of Satan” (based on the title of a book by the same name, by John Bevere). On Sunday he talked about the great loyalty Peter had to Jesus. He loved Him! Yet when Jesus was arrested, Peter was intimidated by the question of a teenage girl and ended up falling into another kind of trap: “the fear of man”. Have you ever struggled with the fear of the disapproval of people? Can you give an example?

2. Discuss these quotes and Scripture

“The fear of man can immobilize us when we should take action, and gag us into silence when we should speak. It feels powerful, but its power is deceptive.” John Piper.

“The fear of man lays a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is safe” (Proverbs 29:25).

“I, yes I, am the One who comforts you. Who are you that you are so afraid of humans who will die, descendants of mere men, who have been made like grass.” Isaiah 51:12

“The Lord is my helper, I will not be afraid, what can anyone do to me?” Hebrews 13:6

Why is there such power in this particular fear?

How does trusting in the Lord keep a person safe?

3. Have you experienced a “sifting” with this issue? Has God given you opportunity to practice fearing Him more than people? Have you had some break-throughs?

4. If you had the chance to stand before Jesus and He asked you what He asked Peter, what would you like to say to Jesus? Think it through a bit...write it down if you need to sort your thoughts...share it with the group.