

## Week One | Fear | 05.15-16.2021

**Grow Deep Conversation Questions:** Use these questions to help you process the message in your personal time of study or with your group. Time suggestions are based on a 90-minute group gathering.

**Message Recap:** Our world is addicted to fear, and it seems necessary for our survival, but it's actually poisonous. We often talk about how the opposite of faith isn't doubt, it's fear. And really fear about a bigger faith in what we're afraid of than what God has for us in the future and that's why it's so toxic to our faith and how we follow Jesus each day. We must learn how to trust Jesus for today and not rob the energy and wisdom God has given us for today by trying to solve fear-driven problems that aren't even here yet.

>> Opening (2-3 minutes)

- Introductions this is especially important if this is your first meeting and if there are new members
- Housekeeping clarify expectations
  - Remind your group that this is a confidential meeting
  - Remember there may be many thoughts and views. Please remain kind and respectful during conversations.
- Pray open your time together in prayer

> Introduction (12 minutes)

- Ice-Breaker: What is a silly fear you have?
- Digging Deeper: Why do you think we so easily excuse ourselves from God telling us to not fear versus other areas of sin like lying?
- **Observation** Read 2 Timothy 1:6-7; James 4:13-15; 1 John 4:18; Matthew 6:25-34 (12 minutes)
  - What are your initial reactions to these passages? What do you find challenging? Are you encouraged by any of these verses? Why?

## **Xey Principle | Fear robs today of its power and tomorrow of its hope.** (12 minutes)

- What fears have robbed you of the passion God has placed in you?
- >> Fear Extinguishes Fire | Reread 2 Timothy 1:6-7 (12 minutes)
  - How does fear trick you into thinking you can control the future?
- Fear Reveals Pride | Reread James 4:13-15 (12 minutes)
- What is contributing to your fear that needs to change?
- > Love Kills Fear | Reread 1 John 4:18 (12 minutes)
- How can the love of God towards you change the way fear shows up in your life?

## >> Next Steps and Prayer | (15 minutes)

- Read Matthew 6:25-34. Which part of this section from the Sermon on the Mount captures your attention? What do you think Jesus is wanting to teach you in this current moment?
- What might God want to use to add faith and trust in Him right now?
- Close by praying for each other to take a closer look at the fears in your lives and ask God to help you trust in Him rather than in your fears.

