

Facing Our Fears
The Fear of the Future
Part 4
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Matthew 6:34 “So don’t worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today’s trouble is enough for today.” (NLT = New Living Translation)

1. Learn to trust in the _____ of God

*Psalms 71:5 “For you have been my hope, **Sovereign Lord**, my confidence since my youth.” (NLT)*

- God is in _____ over His creation
Isaiah 40:26 “Look up into the heavens. Who created all the stars? He brings them out like an army, one after another, calling each by its name. Because of his great power and incomparable strength, not a single one is missing.” (NLT)
- God is working everything out according to _____
Ephesians 1:10-11 “And this is the plan: At the right time he will bring everything together under the authority of Christ—everything in heaven and on earth. Furthermore, because we are united with Christ, we have received an inheritance from God,^[a] for he chose us in advance, and he makes everything work out according to his plan.” (NLT)
- Grow in your _____ of God
Jeremiah 9:23-24 “This is what the Lord says: “Don’t let the wise boast in their wisdom, or the powerful boast in their power, or the rich boast in their riches. 24 But those who wish to boast should boast in this alone: that they truly know me and understand that I am the Lord who demonstrates unfailing love and who brings justice and righteousness to the earth, and that I delight in these things.” (NLT)

2. Do not put your trust in _____

Jeremiah 17:5,7 “This is what the LORD says: “Cursed are those who put their trust in mere humans, who rely on human strength and turn their hearts away from the LORD... “But blessed are those who trust in the LORD and have made the LORD their hope and confidence.” (NLT)

- Humanity is _____
Jeremiah 17:9 “The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked. Who really knows how bad it is?” (NLT)
- Humanity is _____ to predict the future
Ecclesiastes 10:13-14 Fools base their thoughts on foolish assumptions, so their conclusions will be wicked madness; they chatter on and on. No one really knows what is going to happen; no one can predict the future.” (NLT)
- Humanity is _____

Isaiah 2:22 “Don’t put your trust in mere humans. They are as frail as breath. What good are they?” (NLT)

3. Let God _____ you

Romans 12:2 “Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.” (NLT)

- Limit your exposure to _____ influences
Colossians 2:8 “Don’t let anyone capture you with empty philosophies and high-sounding nonsense that come from human thinking and from the spiritual powers of this world, rather than from Christ.” (NLT)
- Increase your exposure for _____
 - God’s truth
 - God’s people
 - God’s way

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Discussion Questions:

1. What are some of your fears regarding the future? How heavy to do some of these fears weigh on your heart and mind?
2. How can we grow in trusting the sovereignty of God? Is this something that is difficult for you? Discuss why.
3. Discuss a current event that may cause fear. How can trusting in God’s sovereignty make a difference?
4. Why does God tell us not to put our trust in humanity? What is God’s assessment of humanity? Why would trusting in humanity increase fear?
5. How do we let God transform us? Is it difficult to take the 30 day challenge? Why / why not?
6. Discuss how God’s truth – God’s people – and God’s way makes a difference overcoming the fear of the future.