
SERMON OUTLINE

Finding Peace in Times of Fear

- I. Our greatest fears often come with our greatest God-given opportunities.
 - A. Don't be afraid Mary – Luke 1:26-38
 1. Mary feared the words of Gabriel (1:29).
 - Fear of failure, feeling undeserving, inadequate and many unanswered questions
 2. Promise: Nothing is impossible for God (1:37).
 3. Mary trusted God and submitted to His plan (1:38).
 - B. Don't be afraid Joseph – Matthew 1:18-25
 1. Joseph feared marrying Mary (1:20).
 - Fear of believing the angel, fear of people's opinions for the rest of their lives
 2. Promise: Mary's conception is a miracle (1:20).
 3. Joseph trusted God and married Mary (1:24-25).
- II. God-given peace comes only as we choose to trust God and obey him in spite of our fears.
 - A. We create much of our fear through our pride and our desire to be in control.
 1. Proud King Herod wickedly tried to seize control when fearing a baby king (Matthew 2).
 2. Humble future king David relinquished control when pursued and falsely accused (Psalm 56).
 - B. God addresses our fears by giving us peace as we consistently pray, trust and obey him (Philippians 4:4-9).