

# FIGHTING FOR FAITH

## When We Fear

### 2 Cor.1:8-9, 7:5-6

Fear – to be afraid of, to feel \_\_\_\_\_ toward

Fear \_\_\_\_\_ up \_\_\_\_\_!

When we interfere or abandon the “play”, we rob God of the awe He deserves and is working toward. *Jeremiah 2:18-19, Romans 8:28*

### I. We have a choice to turn inward, outward or upward.

A. What does God intend? \_\_\_\_\_ and dependence

*Ps. 20:7, Ps. 77, Is. 12:2, Is 26:3, Is 41:10-14*

B. What does He caution? Autonomy and \_\_\_\_\_

*Judges 7:2, Hosea 10:13, Ps.118:8-9, Is. 30:1-2, Is. 31:1*

Fear is the first domino that falls but it is our choice where it leads.

### II. We turn to what we foster and value the most.

*Joshua 1:7-9*

It is counterintuitive to set the Lord before us, but it is \_\_\_\_\_ if we don't.

#### Saul and Abraham

1. Reasoned for \_\_\_\_\_
2. Overcome by fear
3. Took matters into own hands
4. Relied on their \_\_\_\_\_ resources
5. Compromised those around them
6. Missed out on God's best

#### David and Hezekiah

1. Remembered the Lord
2. Ran to the Lord
3. \_\_\_\_\_ the problem
4. Sought His \_\_\_\_\_
5. Received His help
6. \_\_\_\_\_ God

# STUDY QUESTIONS

1. Using Biblegateway.com, complete a word study on “little faith” in the Gospels (the first four books of the New Testament). Examine the context of each time Jesus uses that term and what they have in common. What can you learn from this?
2. Do another word study on the terms “great faith” and “your faith”. Describe the kind of faith that pleases Jesus.
3. Read John 2:1 – 11. What can be learned from Mary about faith and the everyday application of faith to issues that arise?
4. What was Mary expecting of Jesus? What was she sure of, in order to bring this to His attention? Give at least two ideas.
5. Compare and contrast this event with Mary in John 2 with the disciples in the boat with Jesus during the storm described in Matthew 10.
6. Have you ever stopped to consider what you assume of Jesus on your behalf? Do you tend to assume the worst or the best?
7. Whether circumstances showing “little faith” or “great faith”, what do they all have in common?
8. In your opinion, how does “little faith” become “great faith?”
9. At this point in your life, how would you describe your faith?
10. Reflecting on your season of life, what situation do you think holds most value/profit for growing your faith?
11. How might Jesus look at your life, past or present, and describe your faith as being “great” as it concerned a particular area?
12. Are there certain areas of your life that you find it easier to have great faith, while other areas are more difficult?
13. Have you seen progress or change in your faith in these difficult areas or do you feel “stuck” or “stagnant?”
14. What is your tendency in responding to situations in your life requiring great faith?