

WORDS
OF
COMFORT

JULY 19, 2020 | DAVID NEWKIRK | FAMILY NOTES

**Facing Your Fear
Luke 10:38-42 & Psalm 139**

1. God has designed and given us a variety of responsibilities, opportunities, and abilities that affirm our self-worth.

Without worrying about feeling “braggadocious”, what are the top two or three things you do that help affirm your sense of personal value?

Do you have any idea when you might cross the line in putting too much value in any of your top three?

2. Do you ever feel like God has pushed you off or ignored you, later to realize He was there more than you thought?

3. How do the following verses help us affirm and balance being with God in the midst of life’s responsibilities and tasks?

Philippians 3:7-12 [NIV] *“But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead. ¹² Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.”*

Ephesians 2:10 [NIV] *“For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”*

James 1:22-25 [NIV] *“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. ²³ Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror ²⁴ and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. ²⁵ But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.”*

4. Imagine for a moment what it would feel like to lose an important skill, ability, or significant role.

Part of dealing with this kind of loss is remembering “who we are in Christ” and not just seeing our significance in our skills and abilities.

How would the following verses help you process that loss and further build your worth and identity in Christ no matter what life throws at you?

2 Corinthians 5:17 [NIV] *“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!”*

Colossians 2:9-10 [NIV] *“For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form,¹⁰ and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority.”*

Philippians 4:6-7 [NIV] *“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”*

5. One of our challenges in the midst of loss, failure or rejection is losing sight of who God is and connection with Him.

Can you think of anything in your life that can be a roadblock to putting into action David’s advice in Psalm 46:10-11? (Note – “being still” does not necessarily mean not being busy.)

Psalm 46:10-11 [NIV] *“Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.”¹¹ The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Selah*

6. Looking back at this week’s teaching and study, what is most important for you to remember when it comes to practicing being in the presence of God?

Are there any distractions you need to cut out or steps you need to take to stay connected to God?

2020 BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER REQUESTS:

Father, pour out your Spirit on us and move us forward together.

Father, please retire the Worship Center mortgage by 2025.

Father, please use us to build a reproducing church among an unreached people by 2030.