

MESSAGE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



KICK FEAR AND PRIDE IN THE FACE

// SUNDAY, JULY 25, 2020

This week, Mike Fackler, Senior Pastor of Highland Park Community Church in Casper, Wyoming, asked the question, "Is God asking you to do something you don't want to do?" Of course, the answer is yes. Read through your Bible and you will find throughout history, God never asks anyone to do something they want to do or something easy. Maybe that's because God has his eyes on what is best for everyone, not just what is best for you. God has the victory of the future in mind, not just the comfort of your present. But when God presents an opportunity, we should take it. Which means working through whatever gets in the way. The most common issues that keep us from stepping into what God asks of us are fear and pride.

Replace fear with faith.

Jesus promised us in this life we will have trouble, but fear not he has overcome the world (John 16:33).

Faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see (Hebrews 11:1).

Replace pride with humility.

Jesus who being in the very nature of God did not consider equality with God as something to be grasped, but made himself nothing and took on the very nature of a servant. And in the nature of a servant he humbled himself even to the point of death death on a cross (Philippians 2:6-9).

DISCUSSION/REFLECTION

1. When has God asked you to do something you didn't want to do? How have you responded in the past?
2. Has fear or pride played a role in saying "no" in the past?
3. If fear is your issue, can you trace it to its origin? (rejection, not sure how to proceed, lack of biblical knowledge, etc) How might you face, or overcome those fears with faith?
4. If pride is your issue, your first act of humility is to admit it. (Also understand pride can be wrapped up in fear—fear of losing face, fear of embarrassment, etc.) What does pride look like in your life? How does humility counter that?
5. What are some hard things God may be calling you to do? Individually? As a group? How can you move forward, cutting through fear and pride?
6. How can we pray for each other?

PRAYER

Ask God to make his requests known to you. Pray for an open mind and open heart to the hard things, the things you have earnestly and purposely avoided out of fear or pride in the past. Confess the times you refused to respond, and seek ways to embrace faith and humility in the days ahead. Pray diligently for one another and for those God calls you to serve, love, befriend, lead, or share time and words with.