

Standing Firm in the Face of Fear

Isaiah 43:1-7

Pastor Jeff Schwarzentraub

Sermon Questions

As a congregation, we heard God's Word proclaimed from Isaiah 43:1-7 and learned several reasons for why we should not fear regardless of circumstances. Below are the notes from the message.

Do not fear because...

God created, formed and redeemed you (1a)

God privileges and protects you (1b-2)

God loves and cherishes you (3-4)

God remains with you (5-6)

God receives glory through you (7)

Hearing the Word of God and responding to Him is extremely important. If you haven't had the chance to listen to the message from this week you can now [watch it here](#). After watching, please use the following questions if you find them helpful in your BRAVE groups (in the event you are able to meet) or discuss them with your family and/or friends.

1. Think about the deepest fears you have right now and discuss them with your group. Why is this specific fear a concern of yours? How long have you had that fear? How does continuing to focus on this fear keep you from experiencing God's peace?
2. How does looking to God's abilities and character during times of fear become helpful to us? Compare and contrast social media messaging and network media messaging to the Word of God. What observations do you make?
3. What comfort do you have knowing that God created and formed you? How does it help you knowing that God has purposed you for this exact season in time? Describe the comfort of knowing that all of our days were designed by God when as yet there wasn't one of them? (Psalm 139:16)
4. How do you respond to the fact that Jesus Christ left glory to come to earth and die for you? When did you personally trust Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior? If Jesus was willing to leave glory to redeem you from hell, what is too hard for Him at this time?

5. Knowing you are a son or daughter of God, what privileges and protections do you have? What comfort do you feel knowing that the God of the universe “has got your back”? Pastor Jeff mentioned a story of his son protecting his “Lego creation” that he spent all day putting together. How much more does the Father protect us?
6. Often, we think of God’s love only in an intellectual way. When you consider that God genuinely loves you unconditionally, describe the emotions you feel? At church you often hear the words “You are Loved,” but have you ever spoken “I am Loved” or “God for sure loves me”? Take some time in your group to go around and allow everyone to speak the truth of God’s love for them personally. How did that feel when you spoke those words? How did that feel when you heard others? Do you believe this?
7. Jesus promised he would be with us always and would never leave us or forsake us (Matthew 28:20, Hebrews 13:5b). Have you been feeling alone? How is God reminding you that He is with you during this season? What would be different in your life RIGHT NOW if you knew that God wasn’t near? What can your BRAVE Group do to help you in this season to meet your needs?
8. How wild is it to consider that at this very moment God is receiving glory through you? How do you want to live so that the Holy One will be pleased by you?
9. The message ended this week by demonstrating you have been diagnosed with a disease that is worse than COVID-19. The Bible points out that every human being has contracted sin and it kills every single one of its victims. Sin will cause you to die and face eternity apart from Jesus Christ. But the good news is that Jesus Christ provided a cure for sin through His shed blood so that you can repent and trust Jesus Christ alone for the forgiveness of your sins and be cleansed forever. Have you repented and trusted Christ? Tell the group your testimony in 60 seconds or less. If you don’t have a testimony, ask someone in the group to lead you to Christ.