

WEARY OF FEAR

What are you afraid of?

Fear, at its core, is a *perceived loss of control*.

- *So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.* (Matt. 10:31)
- *"Don't be afraid; just believe."* (Luke 8:50)
- *"Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."* (Matt. 14:27)
- *"Don't be troubled or afraid"* (John 14:27)

The Fears we Face Today:

1. Fear of the Unknown

Matthew 1:18 (NIV) *This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.*

Why is the VB so important?

- Salvation can never come from human effort.

God sent forth his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. (Galatians 4:4-5)

- Unites together the full deity and full humanity in one person.
- It means God can be born in the flesh without sin.

The Holy Spirit will come upon you...therefore the child to be born will be called holy." (Luke 1:35)

2 Fear of Image

²⁰ *But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."*

How can we overcome our Fear?

1. I am not alone.

²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).

2. Faith for the next step.

²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵ But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.