

ARTICLE

THERE IS NO FEAR IN LOVE

PRAYER SPOTLIGHT

SUNDAY SCHOOL

FBC Today

UNLEASHING THE GOSPEL



THERE IS NO FEAR IN LOVE

The most important lesson I've learned this year is that I will regret every decision I make out of fear.

Be it fear of not having enough money, fear of missing out, fear of how people perceive us,

fear of being alone and single, fear of growing old, fear of disappointing others, fear of making the wrong choices, fear of failing, fear of not being good enough, etc.

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON

17 August 2025
The Blessed Man
Psalm 1

Preacher
Arnold Lim



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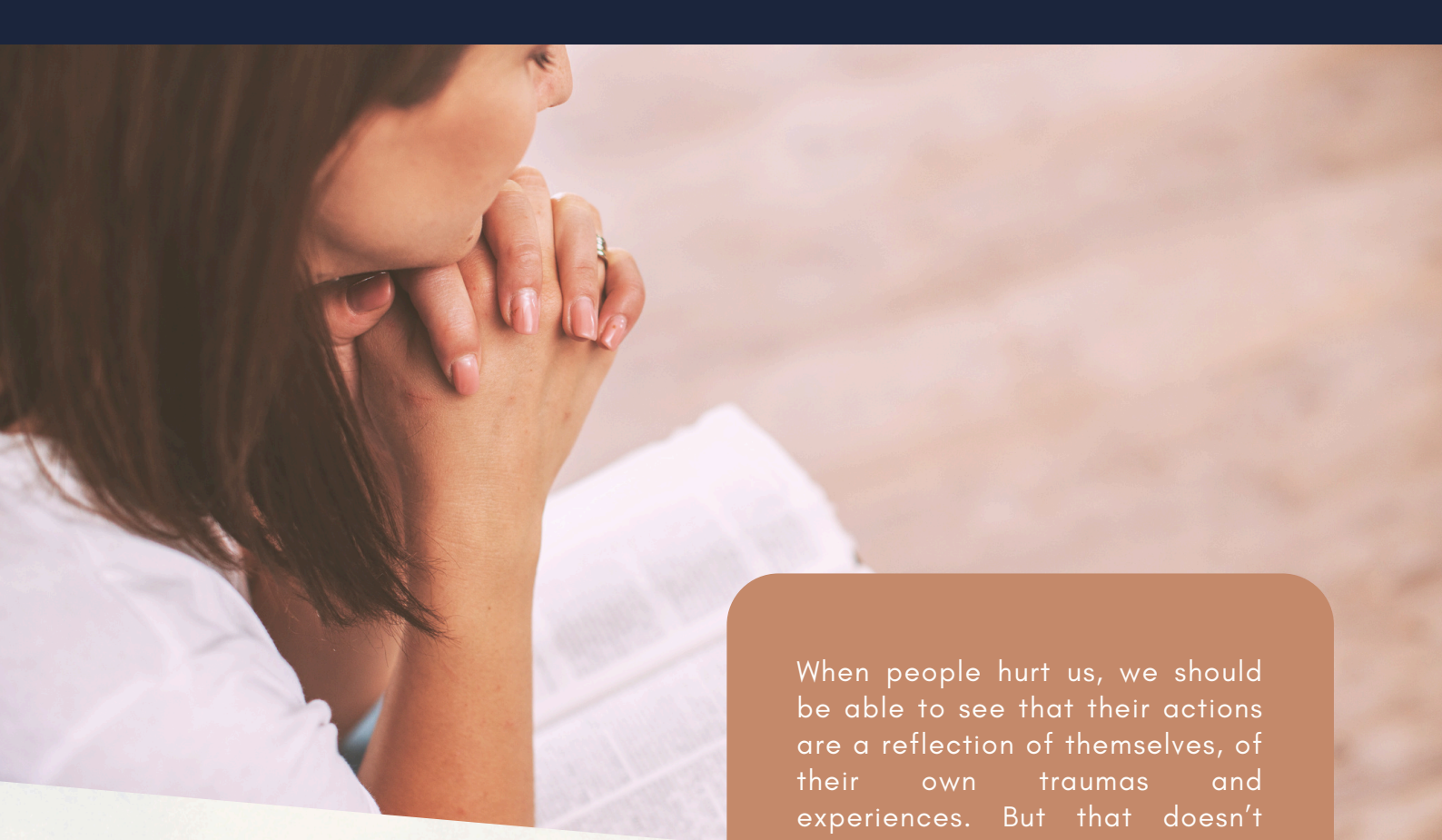
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It's just not worth it to let fear dictate our lives. We just end up miserable and living a life shaped by circumstances and other people, instead of the life we are meant to live. It's also a waste to live life with a victim mentality, to think life is unfair when we are fully capable of changing our perspective and actions. Sure, we cannot control circumstances and other people, but we sure can control our reaction towards them.

That is not to negate just how tough and challenging life can be, with people making it more complicated. We should accept circumstances as they come, acknowledge our emotions, learn how to overcome them, and move forward in due time. If we refuse to overcome it or face reality, we will be stuck in bitterness and anger, only to realize later in life that it has taken control and caused permanent damage in our lives.

When people hurt us, we should be able to see that their actions are a reflection of themselves, of their own traumas and experiences. But that doesn't mean we should be a doormat or accept the way they treat us if it is abusive and/or toxic. It is worth confronting and saying it is not okay, or disassociating yourself from that person. It is ultimately a choice that you make, whether to let bitterness and fear drive you.

The only thing we need to fear is God, and that is a reverent fear that helps us know God and motivates us to obey God. (If only I start practicing what I preach.)

***THERE IS NO FEAR IN LOVE,
BUT PERFECT LOVE CASTS
OUT FEAR. FOR FEAR HAS
TO DO WITH PUNISHMENT,
AND WHOEVER FEARS HAS
NOT BEEN PERFECTED IN
LOVE.***

1 John 4:18

**THE FEAR OF THE LORD IS
THE BEGINNING OF
WISDOM, AND THE
KNOWLEDGE OF THE HOLY
ONE IS INSIGHT.**

Proverbs 9:10

If you put something above God, be it a 'good' desire or a 'bad' desire, it is ultimately a sin.

You probably know of at least one thing you're holding above God, but you're in denial because you're enjoying it. In fact, it looks so harmless and feels so good that you don't see that you're trapped. Or, nobody knows about it, so you're 'safe'. Hidden sin is always more harmful than anything that is out in the open.

If you don't learn your lesson the easy way, you're bound to learn it the hard way. What is holding you back from obeying God? What lies are you telling yourself? What have you used to fill yourself up, until there's no space for God anymore?

I pray this:

Whatever comes, may my hands be open for what You (God) have in store for me, and for You to freely take away. I am learning that this life is better when You are in control and not me. I am learning that I'd much rather obey than live in regret. I want to love the right way, even if it may be fleeting. I want to be able to surrender, even if it hurts. I want to give freely, even if I may not receive. I want to be joyful, even if circumstances look bleak. May my desires align with Your will, and may Your will be done in my life.

Amen.



By Vanessa Cheng

Vanessa serves on the Worship team and attends the DOJO life group)



PRAYER FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

- Pray for God to provide more volunteers especially from the Youth, College and Young Adults that they may be mentored and trained. To allow refreshing sabbaticals for many long serving teachers (more than 10 years) and orderly succession planning.
- Pray for increased parental support and involvement in their child(ren)'s spiritual growth and development. Pray the parent will spend time to discuss on the Bible lesson taught each week.
- Pray for parents to volunteer as helpers in class or helping out to lead worship or craft activities especially for the preschool classes.
- Pray for a dedicated individual to join the team and lead the spiritual growth and discipleship of children in our ministry.
- Pray for the Holy Spirit to provide a compassionate and skilled leader who can provide pastoral care and guidance, and manage administrative tasks in the ministry.