

Discussion Questions for Essentials Week 1, “The Fear of the Lord”

1. In Mark 4:35, Jesus leads His disciples into the boat knowing a storm might come.
 - When has following Jesus led you into a situation that felt stormy or risky? How did you respond?
2. The disciples ask, “*Don’t you care if we drown?*” (v. 38).
 - Have you ever prayed or thought something similar in a time of fear or difficulty? What happened?
3. Jesus speaks two words, “*Quiet! Be still!*” and the storm obeys.
 - What storms in your life right now need to hear those words from Jesus?
4. The disciples move from being afraid of the storm to being in awe of Jesus (v. 41).
 - What does this shift teach us about the difference between **negative fear** and the **fear of the Lord**?
5. Proverbs 9:10 says, “*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.*”
 - How does reverence for God shape the way you make decisions?
6. The sermon noted that the fear of the Lord brings protection, contentment, health, and intimacy with God.
 - Which of these benefits do you most long for in your life right now, and why?
7. Jim Bakker’s quote was, “*I never stopped loving Him; I stopped fearing Him.*”
 - What do you think he meant by that? What’s the difference between loving God and fearing God?
8. One way to grow in the fear of the Lord is to **get into His world** (creation).
 - When have you experienced awe in God’s creation? How can you build more of those moments into your rhythm?
9. Another way is to **get into His Word** (Scripture).
 - What practices help you approach the Bible with reverence and expectation rather than routine or obligation?
10. The disciples discovered that Jesus cared when He responded to their cries.
 - How does remembering that Christ both *rules the storm* and *cares for you personally* change how you face challenges today?