

## Study Notes for Session #3 – “Replacing fear with AWE”

Review:

The 4 Cs of Fear:

1. Controlling
2. C\_\_\_\_\_
3. Contagious
4. C\_\_\_\_\_

### Defining the Fear of God (AWE)

#1. **INITIAL FEAR OF GOD:** We are afraid of Him because He is dangerous

*“Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him! For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.”*

Psalm 33:8

*“But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear him who, after your body has been killed, has authority to throw you into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him.”*

Luke 12:5

Characteristics:

- it arises from the threat of God’s \_\_\_\_\_
- it is concerned with self-preservation, instead of knowing and enjoying God
- it only knows God in His attributes of greatness (power, transcendence, eternity, holiness, etc)

Objection: “I never felt scared of God!”

#2. **GRACE – INFUSED FEAR OF GOD:** We are in AWE of Him because of all He is

Isaiah 11:3 – *“And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord”*

Psalm 147:11 - *The LORD delights in those who fear him, who put their hope in his unfailing love.*

### The Benefits of Fearing God (AWE)

1. **it \_\_\_\_\_ us**

Job 40:4 - *Behold, I am of small account; what shall I answer you? I lay my hand on my mouth.*

Job 42:5 - *I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you; 6 therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes.*

Scientific Research Movement – “AWE”.

Dr. Jennifer Stellar – studied 122 different countries view of “awe”.

Conclusions:

- all cultures have a word for, and recognize an emoji depicting \_\_\_\_\_
- awe makes everyone feel \_\_\_\_\_
- awe makes people feel more connected to other people and more \_\_\_\_\_ to others

Dr. Dacher Keltner’s research – “Why Awe is so Important” - 30 different cultures. Value of Awe:

- gives you a sense of your own \_\_\_\_\_
- moves you out of self-focus

2. **It deepens our trust in God**

Exodus 14:31 – *“And when the Israelites saw the mighty hand of the LORD displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the LORD and put their trust in Him”*

3. **it overcomes our fears**

The story of Psalm 34