Redwood
Covenant Church

July 8, 2010

Dear Friend,

Heights? Spiders? Things that go bump in the night? Public speaking? Long-winded preachers?
What are you afraid of?
Fears that drive us, park us, slow us or speed us are amazing sources of power. Whether it's a mouse running across the kitchen floor or confronting someone who has hurt you, the influence of fear can perch a screaming, grown adult on the proverbial countertop. Worse yet, fear can launch an attack that would make the Mixed Martial Arts fight sponsors scramble for a contract to sign up another competitor.
And then along comes a phrase that defines an experience of a whole new way to live life…
Perfect love drives out fear.
In its original context, the words of life change offered are,
"There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love."
A man named John wrote those words in his letter to his "Dear Friends". (I John 4:18)
He wrote this not simply as words of wisdom. He wrote from experience. He spent three years walking closely with a man, an ordinary man so he thought at first. This man so captured John's imagination, he went unemployed to spend more time with Him. Little did John know how much his future vocation was a matter of life and death…and life again. He met Jesus, followed Jesus, was loved by Jesus, learned from Jesus, loved Jesus. What happened? His fears were packed up, thrown in the trunk and driven far, far away.
Paul is another guy who knows a love so strong, even the bars of a prison could not incarcerate him in fear. Those around him who also knew this Jesus, became more courageous and fearless. (Philippians 1:12-14)
Read that again, "more courageous and fearless". More courage…less fear. Where do I sign up?
You're invited to spend another Sunday with "Dear Friends" of Redwood Covenant Church as we explore what it means to be Free from Fear in our Free to Live series in the book of Philippians. You even have time options – 9:30 or 11:11 AM with full dynamic ministry to Kids at both services or teenagers at 9:30 AM.

Contact us or check on Sunday to find more ways to live and love fearlessly by connecting with a small group of friends, serve with friends or pray with your friends as we search for a courageous new Lead Pastor to lead the drive out of Fearland into Loveland.

See you Sunday. I'll be the one who has overcome his fear of public speaking. Don't be afraid, I'll keep the wind down.

Pastor Doug Webster

www.redwoodcovenant.org