

Everyone has dreams, aspirations, and hopes for the future. However, we also like to keep those things hidden in the depths of our souls. Fear keeps those secret goals locked deep inside of us. In this series we are exploring the impact of fear and how we come overcome the fears in our lives by living as people of faith.

Icebreaker: What is one silly thing that you find yourself afraid of? (heights, spiders, snakes, crowds, clowns, etc)

1. Where do think fear comes from? Why can it be so paralyzing? Do you think that there are common contributors to fear? Explain.
2. Pride seems to be the foundation of the fear of failure. Do you agree or disagree with the statement? Explain.
3. Do you think the fear of failure is similar to the fear of success? Why or why not?
4. Read Joshua 1:1-9; What are some of the factors in Joshua's life that could have made him fearful of the future or of failing? How would you have felt if you found yourself in the same position?
5. Who do we normally turn to in life to define success for us? Why? How does God define success?
6. This week we took a look at three ways that God defined success to Joshua. Take a moment and discuss the principles behind the statements. In other words, what does God want us to understand about failure and success?
 - a. Success is relational, and not circumstantial (what makes you successful?)
 - b. Success is about character development and not achievement.
 - c. Success is learning to live courageously.
7. Is there a similarity between living courageously and living in faith? Explain.
8. Have you ever seen God use your failures to develop your character? How did that make you feel? Looking back now, how does that make you feel?
9. Read 2 Timothy 1:6-8: What does this verse teach us about fear and how to overcome fear?

Prep for next week: How do you feel about death? Why does death seem to have such a sting to it? Read Hebrews 2:14-15 in preparation for next week.

Pray
