

**Facing Your Future Fearlessly, Pt. 2**  
**Series: God Is Good All the Time**  
**Psalm 23:6; Sermon Outline**  
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**Reasons Why We Never Need To Fear The Future**

**1. Because God's unlimited goodness is enveloping me.**

- † *Psalm 23:6a, "Surely, goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life" (NKJV).*
  - The Hebrew word translated as "follow" is [יִרְדֹּפֵנִי, Yirdefuni] and it literally means "to pursue, to chase, to hunt down, to persecute, to overtake, and to envelope." This word is typically a reference to something hostile. It is used to refer to a predator that chases, hunts, overtakes its prey, swallows it whole (envelopes it), catches it and then kills it.
- † *Romans 8:28, "We know that all that happens to us is working for our good if we love God and are fulfilling His designate purpose for our lives" (TLB/TPT).*

**2. Because God's unlimited mercy is working in and through me.**

- † *Psalm 23:6a, "Surely, goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life" (NKJV).*
  - What is mercy? The Hebrew word translated as "mercy" is [חֶסֶד, chesed]. This word always refers to an attitude and action that expresses undeserved kindness, undeserved grace, undeserved forgiveness and undeserved love. Underline each of the "undeserved."

**What Is The Difference Between God's Goodness & God's Mercy?**

**a. God's goodness is when God gives me what I do not deserve.**

- † *James 1:17a, "Whatever is good and perfect is a gift coming down to us from God our Father . . ." (NLT).*

**b. Mercy is the opposite. Mercy is when God doesn't give me what I do deserve.**

- † *Romans 3:23, "Everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard" (NLT).*
- † *Romans 6:23, "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord" (NLT).*

**3. God's unlimited glory is waiting for me.**

- † *Psalm 23:6b, ". . . And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever" (NKJV).*
  - That means I don't have to fear death because death is not the final curtain call. Death is not a termination; it is a transfer. We're going to heaven. God saves the best for last. We're going to heaven. God saves the best for last. If you love and know Jesus, if the Lord is your Shepherd, it just gets better and better, because even if I have a tough life here on earth, I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever where there's no more sorrow, no more suffering, no more sin, no more sickness, no more sadness, no more problems, no more pain, no more pressure. With Jesus, it keeps getting better and better. The best is yet to come.

**To Live Fully and Fearlessly I Must Consistently and Intentionally:**

**1. Be \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to others because God is so \_\_\_\_\_ to me.**

- † *Psalm 118:29, "Give thanks continually to our Lord because He is so good, and because His mercy will never run out – it lasts forever" (PAR).*
  - I need to develop for the rest of my life an \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.

- When your life is grateful, you can't be fearful because they oppose each other. Why? Because fear focuses on \_\_\_\_\_ and gratitude and generous focuses on \_\_\_\_\_.

† Hebrews 12:28, "We have been given possession of an unshakeable kingdom. Therefore, let us be grateful and use our gratitude to worship God in the way that pleases Him, with reverence and awe" (PAR).

- Utilize the extra handout called: "From A-To-Z: My Personal Daily Gratitude Reminder of God's Spiritual Blessings To Me."

† Matthew 10:8, "You have been treated generously [by God] so live generously. Give as freely as you have received" (NLT/MSG).

† Psalms 112:5-9, "Good will come to the person who is generous. Such people lend freely and conduct their affairs honestly. <sup>6</sup>They will never be shaken . . . <sup>7</sup>They don't fear bad news, because they trust the Lord to care for them. <sup>8</sup>They are confident and fearless facing their opposition! <sup>9</sup>Because they give generously to those in need, they will have influence and honor" (PAR).facing their opposition!

- How about for the next 30 days, we all make a commitment together, that we're not going to \_\_\_\_\_ about anything.

## 2. Be \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to others because God is so \_\_\_\_\_ to me.

† Ephesians 4:32, "Be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you" (NLT).

- The word translated as "kind" is the New Testament Greek word [χρηστός; chrēstos]. It means "mild, pleasant; not harsh, not hard, not sharp, not bitter and not blunt; instead, one is courteous, congenial, gracious, polite, and nice."
- The word translated as "tenderhearted" is the Greek New Testament word [εὐσπλαγχνος; eusplangchnos]. It is the combination of two Greek words "eu," which means "good" and splangchnos, which means "having strong bowels." The Greeks believed that strong emotions came from the bowels, so when you combine "eu" with "splangchnos," it refers to "strong feelings from the gut that are tender, compassionate, decent, as well as a gnawing psychosomatic pain due to empathy for someone's need."

† Proverbs 15:1, "A gentle answer deflects anger, but harsh words make tempers flare" (NLT).

- Do you know what being courteous and merciful are? They are another name for \_\_\_\_\_.

† 1 John 4:18, "There is no fear in love. Instead, perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment" (GNT).

- How do you know when somebody doesn't understand the grace of God? They're not \_\_\_\_\_ to anybody else. Ungracious people are \_\_\_\_\_ people. They don't realize how much they've been \_\_\_\_\_ by God, so they want to hold it over everybody else.

## 3. Be living my life for \_\_\_\_\_ because He's going to \_\_\_\_\_ with me one day.

† Matthew 5:16, "Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven" (ESV).

† 1 Peter 1:3, "God, in His divine power, has given us everything we need for living a godly life. This power is given to us through knowing Jesus. He has called us to share in His own goodness and glory" (PAR).

† Psalms 23:6, "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me, All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the Lord Forever" (NKJV).

- You need to ask yourself this question: Who is my \_\_\_\_\_?