

Fearing Your Neighbor

Genesis 12:10-20

Abraham's Mistakes

- Abraham let fear overcome his _____ in God's _____.
- Abraham's fear made him _____ the _____ about his neighbors.
- Abraham's fear made him _____ his _____ to protect himself.
- Abraham's fear made him _____ God's _____ to protect himself.
- Abraham's sin brought a _____ on his neighbors.
- Abraham's sin _____ his relationship with his neighbors.

Fearless Neighboring

- Ananias knew the _____ of going to his neighbor.
- Ananias trusted that Jesus was working _____ him.
- Ananias loved his neighbor in spite of his _____.

Love Your Neighbor

- Fear is our biggest _____ to loving our neighbors.
- Fear does not come from _____—it is a _____.
- Loving your neighbor means _____ your fear and _____ on trust.

Discussion Questions

1. What did you find most interesting about the sermon this week? The most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling?
2. Are you afraid of talking to your neighbors? What are you afraid of? (Remember: it is very common to be afraid of talking to neighbors don't know. I (Pastor Matt) certainly am. Don't be embarrassed to share)
3. Can you sympathize with Abraham's decision to go to Egypt? Why do you think it might have been hard for him to trust in God's promise?
4. Have you ever assumed the worst about a stranger, only to discover that you were wrong? What happened? Why did you assume the worst?
5. How do you see Christians compromise their integrity out of fear? How have you?
6. How do our fearful reactions to others endanger God's plan in our lives?
7. How do we bring curses on our neighbors when we act out of fear? How could things be different?
8. What would you have thought or felt if you were Ananias on his way to see Saul?
9. Imagine a neighbor you wouldn't want to talk to. What are some ways God could be ahead of you in that person's life? OR, how might God be using you to lay the groundwork for someone else to reach them later?
10. How can you overcome your fear and act on your trust in God? What would it take to encourage/motivate you?