

JUNE 2023

# GRACE MONTHLY

*"The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever:  
The judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether."*

*Psalm 19:9*



## The Fear of God: My Journey to Wisdom

by *Chris Lee*

The fear of God and the wisdom it imparts are His gifts to humanity. In fear we are saved; in wisdom we find life. They call us into the relationship for which we were made as we learn the fear of the Lord endures forever (Psalm 19:9).

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, but I did not grasp this truth until I tasted the bitter regret and burden of disobedience. When temptation arose, I silenced the Spirit's voice and pursued my fleshly desires. Taking God's mercy and grace as granted, I treaded lightly into sin without ample remorse. I thought I would find freedom but gained only bondage, as sin severed my intimacy with God.

In the wake of rebellion, the fear of God came upon me. His light exposed sin for what it is: the rejection of life for death. I was overwhelmed by God's holiness and my foolishness. Yet in matchless mercy, He lifted my heavy burdens and forgave all my trespasses. Awestruck by grace, I repented.

The fear of God thus opened my eyes. It led me to understand that obedience alone enables me to experience a full relationship with Him. His commands are not chains but the means of abiding in His presence. I felt anguish over every act of rebellion, however small, that built walls between us. The fear of God also awoke me to wisdom. True wisdom comes not from the worldly wisdom that serves the self, but from being humble before God. I felt wonder that the sovereign Lord of the universe concerns Himself with the path of one mortal life. He ordained the fear of Himself to be the doorway to understanding, whereby we access truth and purpose.

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# MAY HIGHLIGHTS



## FAMILY WORSHIP NIGHT

On Friday, May 5th there was a Family Worship Night in light of family month. The children Shout Team led a few body worship songs, and Pastor Lauren gave a message to everyone from Joshua 24:14-15 titled, "As for Me and My House." It was a blessed time of worship especially for families with young children and youth.

## YEAR-END PICNIC

To end off the school year, GEM and CLAY had their annual year-end picnic! Taking place at the Surrey Bend Regional Park, the day was filled with fun group games including tug of war. Unlike the forecast of colder weather, the day was very hot, but despite that the students were able to bond through different activities. From activities like soccer and board games, they enjoyed the remaining evening according to their own liking. To top off the event, build-your-own hot dogs with special toppings were prepared by the leaders. Overall the event was a blast for all those who attended!



## CHURCH CLEANING

Our church had their church-wide cleaning day on Saturday, May 20th! Grace Youth was in charge of scrubbing all the tables and wiping the windows clean. Lunch was provided afterwards for everyone who helped out!



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Through disobedience and mercy, I learned wisdom and the fear of God are inseparable with the work of the Holy Spirit; the fear of God deters me from evil and compels me to good, and the Holy Spirit grants discernment to see the difference between good and evil. Together they set my feet on the path of life as God's light to my understanding. May I never again disregard His voice for my own way, but find my joy and purpose in surrender to His will alone.

*"The fear of God promotes spiritual joy; it is the morning star that ushers in the sunlight of comfort."*  
- Thomas Watson

*"The remarkable thing about God is that when you fear God, you fear nothing else, whereas if you do not fear God, you fear everything else."* - Oswald Chambers

## Praise & Prayer

- **Praise** God for the upcoming end of the school year! **Pray** that as the students finish their last weeks of school that everything will go smoothly and that they will rest well and continue to spend time with God in the busyness of studying.
- **Pray** for the graduates of 2023, that as they step in the next season of life they they will grow more mature in Christ and do what God has planned for them.
- **Praise** God for the weather as it has been beautiful this past few weeks!
- **Pray** for whoever needs God's help in their lives right now. **Pray** they will truly see the goodness that He has prepared for them and follow Him with their whole life.
- **Pray** for the Duncan and Glen Vowell missions teams that are starting their weekly trainings this month. **Pray** for team unity and an openness to be used by God to share the gospel.

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR JUNE

There are no Friday Youth Night gatherings for the summer months. Keep up with our latest announcements on Sunday, on our website, or Instagram!