

Potholes on the Road of Life From Fear to Faith

Dr. Sam Crouch
January 5, 2020

1 John 4:16-18 (NLT) – *“We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in his love. God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them. ¹⁷And as we live in God, our love grows more perfect. So we will not be afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face him with confidence because we live like Jesus here in this world. ¹⁸Such love has no fear, because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of punishment, and this shows that we have not fully experienced his perfect love.”*

Romans 8:35, 37-39

Isaiah 41:10 (NLT) – *“Don’t be afraid, for I am with you. Don’t be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand.”*

1. Diffusing Fear of Circumstances

Psalm 27:1-6 (NLT) – *“The LORD is my light and my salvation— so why should I be afraid? The LORD is my fortress, protecting me from danger, so why should I tremble? ²When evil people come to devour me, when my enemies and foes attack me, they will stumble and fall. ³Though a mighty army surrounds me, my heart will not be afraid. Even if I am attacked, I will remain confident. ⁴The one thing I ask of the LORD— the thing I seek most— is to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, delighting in the LORD’s perfections and meditating in his Temple. ⁵For he will conceal me there when troubles come; he will hide me in his sanctuary. He will place me out of reach on a high rock. ⁶Then I will hold my head high above my enemies who surround me. At his sanctuary I will offer sacrifices with shouts of joy, singing and praising the LORD with music.”*

a. Face your fears with reality.

b. Face your fears with a heavenly point of view.

c. Face your fears with absolute trust in God's protection.

d. Face your fears with worship.

Romans 8:31 (NLT) – *“What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us?”*

2. Diffusing Fear of Failure

Psalm 27:7-10 (NLT) – *“Hear me as I pray, O LORD. Be merciful and answer me! ⁸My heart has heard you say, “Come and talk with me.” And my heart responds, “LORD, I am coming.” ⁹Do not turn your back on me. Do not reject your servant in anger. You have always been my helper. Don't leave me now; don't abandon me, O God of my salvation! ¹⁰Even if my father and mother abandon me, the LORD will hold me close.”*

e. Face your fears with prayer.

3. Diffusing Fear of the Future

Psalm 27:11-14 (NLT) – *“Teach me how to live, O LORD. Lead me along the right path, for my enemies are waiting for me. ¹²Do not let me fall into their hands. For they accuse me of things I've never done; with every breath they threaten me with violence. ¹³Yet I am confident I will see the LORD's goodness while I am here in the land of the living. ¹⁴Wait patiently for the LORD. Be brave and courageous. Yes, wait patiently for the LORD.”*

f. Face your fears with confidence in God's sovereignty.