



Sermon – May 8, 2022
Tim Skaggs

Verses Covered This Week

Hebrews 13:5 – 6, 8

Matthew 6:31 – 34

Psalm 115:3

James 1:17

1 Timothy 6 - 8

Joshua 1:5 & 9

Well, as you're being seated, take your copy of God's word. Turn to Hebrews 13. We'll look at that verse in just a moment. Let me say again, this maybe the third time, but Happy Mother's Day. We love our moms. They've impacted our life in such a special way and we're very, very grateful.

What are you afraid of? That's my question to you. We're all afraid of something. For some right now, I mean, maybe it's just me, but I see it all the time in the news. A lot of people are afraid of inflation, supply chain, or lack thereof, Supreme Court decisions. We could go on and on. I see a lot of fear. But I was looking this week at the top ten fears, very practical fears, and there would be fears, and some of you could relate to this fear. Fear of heights. Fear of flying. Fear of death. But one or caught my attention. It's the fear of spiders. It's in the top ten. Now, I looked at spiders and I thought bugs or insects. My family knows this is true. Any insect near me just scares me to death. A ladybug could fly by, I'd start screaming. I mean, it's just ridiculous, okay? You remember that show, Fear Factor, several years ago? You know, you get \$50,000 if you, and some times you eat something gross or they put you, one time they put somebody in this Plexiglas box, looks like a coffin. And they dumped a bunch of insects on top of that person and they had to lay there for two or three minutes. You're talking about spiders and you're talking about centipedes and you're talking about cockroaches and they're just creepy crawlly all over their face and like that. I went no way. I, I know I wouldn't do it for \$50,000. Maybe I wouldn't do it for \$50 million. It's just like I am afraid I'm not going to go there. And so understand that we do have a lot of fear and we need to be honest about that. We all have anxiety. We all struggle with some fears. And this text today is going to help us. Now, one thing I did discover as well as I researched this week. There are 365 verses that would say, fear not or don't be afraid. Coincidence? Maybe. But when I saw that I thought there's a verse for

every day. Every day of the year, if I'm afraid or if I have anxiety, there is a verse for that. And so, man, I just thank God for the way He takes care of us. But this passage is going to help us live every day without fear, I believe. Now, here's what it says, Hebrews 13:5 through 6. Hebrews 13:5 through 6.

⁵Let your life be free from the love of money. And be content with what you have for he has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” ⁶So, we can confidently say, “The Lord is my helper, I will not fear. What can man do to me?

And the key is, we're going to look at four truths here. Not, not just to “amen” these truths and say, I agree with that truth, but to live it out, to apply it in our lives.

Let's pray together.

Heavenly father, I want to thank You for Your word today. And as I teach it, I pray the power of the Holy Spirit would be on us. I pray for one thing and that's that we leave saying, how awesome God is, and that You would be honored and glorified in every thought and every word this morning. In Christ's name I pray. Amen.

Now the key we're going to see in this particular text is to focus, and you're way ahead of me. This is not a difficult Scripture to understand. It's going to be very simple again and you would all agree with all four of these points. But the key is to not focus on the circumstance that causes the fear. Are you with me? But to focus on the One who overcomes the fear. And that would be God. So, the key is to focus on the Lord and here's the first thing that we focus on. Look in verse 5.

⁵Be content with what you have,

Now, I want you to also turn to 1 Timothy chapter 6, looking at verses 6 through 8. Kind of the definitive passage if you will about being content. Now, there's a condition here. This is a conditional phrase at the very beginning of this particular verse. It means it's not going to happen unless you meet the condition. Here's what it says.

⁶Godliness with contentment, did you catch that, Godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷We brought nothing into this world, it is certain we will carry nothing out. ⁸And having food and clothing with these, we will be content.

Now, to the readers of this letter, the Jewish Christians, who've really lost about everything. They've lost so much. They would look at this and here's what they're thinking. Be content not with what you have, watch this, be content with what you don't have. Because when they left the Jewish religion and were converted and became Christians, many of them and most of them actually, lost jobs, lost family, lost friends, lost in some sense the identity from their whole life, their upbringing. And so understand, they would even read this and go, “Man, I gotta be content with what I don't have. I don't have.” So, they went without food, listen to this, for the sake of Christ. They went with only the clothes on their back for the sake of Christ. They lost family and friends for the sake of Christ.

Now, I'm going to share, I'm going to divert a little bit and just share four truths that I believe are four keys to help us to deepen us in contentment, okay? To help us to be content on a daily basis. Here's the first one. Realize God's goodness. Realize how good God is. Jesus wants to make this point in Matthew chapter 7 when he's preaching the Sermon on the Mount and He's looking out at this vast crowd and He says, "Listen, how many of you men, how many of you fathers, would, if son asked for bread, would you give them a rock? Would you give them a stone?" No, you wouldn't do that. How many of you, if your son ask for a fish, you would give them a snake? And of course, the answer is none of them would do that. We're not going to do that. And then here's what He says, you remember this. So, you being evil, if you being evil will good, give good gifts to your children, how much more will a loving, perfect, Heavenly Father long to bless His children, to give good gifts to His kids? And so I remembered that and I've told this story I think, I'm not sure in here in the worship center, but I think in a men's event. But I'll, I will say what my dad always said when he was about to tell a story. If you've heard this story, sit back and relax. You're going to hear it again, okay? So, if you've heard, I've heard that story. Well, you're going to hear it again. I'm in Brownwood, Texas. My grandson, Pascal, who is now 10. He was 4 years old. And we had gone to the store, in the paper goods aisle, to get some paper plates and I misplaced Pascal. Where's Pascal? And I look and he's at the end of this aisle. And this happened to be in these grocery stores, especially in small towns, you've got one little section with shelves or pegboards. And you've got some toys, it's the toy section. It's not very big. Don't have a lot of toys. And he's there and he's got a toy in each hand. So I walk up to him and I go, "Pascal what are you doing?" And he goes, "Oh, Grambo, can I have one these?" And I knelt down, got eyeball to eyeball with him. And I said, "Son, let me teach you something. When you come to Brownwood, you're in what we call Grambo World. And in Grambo World, you can have it." And we're right at the end, the aisles, right, I mean, the checkout thing is right there. I go, "You can have every toy you can carry to that register right there." And he goes and he just starts pulling toys. They're falling on the ground. I'm picking them up. I'm piling them on there. He's waddling over there. As I'm following him, everybody's laughing at us, there's several people there, and I'm picking 'em up. He plops down on the little conveyor belt. Right next, you've seen these, real big giant, rice crispy treats. They're in a blue wrapper. There's about three of 'em. So, he looks at me and he looks at that and he looks at me and he looks at the rice crispy treat. Looks at me again. I go, "Hey, what did I say?" Boom. He puts that on the pile. And here's the deal; it only cost me about \$17 bucks. I mean, it wasn't, it wasn't a big deal, alright? But I wanted to use that to teach him how good God is. I wanted to use that illustration to teach him. Now, before you go health and wealth on me, let me just say that the majority of the times that the Scriptures speaks about God giving us good things. Those are spiritual things. Stay with me, okay? Most of them are not physical. He will take care of us physically, no doubt. Most of them are not giving you material possessions all the time. If you're wondering, well, how come God hadn't done that to me? Okay? Remember, most of the time, what he's giving you will last way beyond this planet. It's eternal things, it's spiritual, it's spiritual, and it's a lot better. It's interesting. Pascal, I wonder if he forgot that. I've only done that once. I haven't done it with any other grandkid, okay? Now, I spoil them a lot but I haven't done that. We were at the Alabama game this year. He's sitting with us and he turns to me, because we needed to score, and he turned me said, "Hey, Grambo, if we score, can I do the all you can carry challenge?" I said, "No, you're ten. You have longer arms. No. Plus, you'd want to go to Walmart instead of Berkshire Brothers." But anyway, but God is good. Amen? Yeah, He is.

Look at the second thing that's going to help us. God is omniscient. Means He's all knowing. Look at this verse. Matthew 6, don't miss this. Great verse. Matthew 6:31 - 34.

³¹Do not worry then saying, "What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear for clothing? ³²For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; now, look at this line, for your Heavenly Father knows that you need all these things because he knows everything. ³³But seek first His kingdom, His righteousness, somebody ought to write a song about that, that's great, and all these things will be added to you. ³⁴So, do not worry about tomorrow. For tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Listen, God is omniscient. He's all knowing. He knows everything about everything. He knows everything about everything. So, when you go to God and you've got this circumstance that brings some stress into your life and you're talking to God and go, "God, do you know? Do you understand?? Whatever. He doesn't say, "Well, let Me Google that, you know, let me YouTube it and I'll get back to you, okay?? He doesn't give us His best guess. We ought to be content with His provision because, guess what, He knows what we need even before he ask Him. Because He's a God who knows everything, stay with me, about everything. Then, we can trust Him, right? If He knows everything about everything, if He's omniscient, we can trust Him. Now, watch this. You trust people every day with a lot of things and they don't know everything about everything. Let me give you an example. Doctors, now, are they smarter than we are? They're smarter than I am. My doctor is probably here. I don't know. I'm kind of looking where he normally sits. Maybe he is, maybe he isn't. I love my doctor. He's smart. But here's the deal, he doesn't know everything about everything but I do everything he tells me. I trust him. I went to him several months ago and he looked and he goes, "Man, what's on your shoulders? Kind of nasty? I need to cut that out. Nurse, would you come get this big, long needle and stick?" He didn't say that but I knew what was coming. "Stick that in Tim's shoulder and then I'm going to bring the scalpel and I'm going to cut that out." I knew what was happening. He goes, "I just need to cut that out." And I go, "Great. Awesome. That's wonderful. Yeah, let's do this." I never even asked him, "You sure?" I just did it. Then he gives me a sheet of paper and I drive, I go in this drive thru and there's this window here and I hand this sheet of paper to somebody I do not know. But I'm certain they don't know everything about everything. And they give that paper, they look at me and I don't know what's, you know, not that he has bad penmanship, but I don't even know what's written on there. But they do, evidently. And then this pharmacist, that doesn't know everything about everything, reaches through that window and she's about to give me a drug that is a foreign substance I'm going to put in my body, and I go, "Thank you. This is wonderful." And she tells me, "Take four of these four times a day." And I go, "That's awesome. If four is good, maybe five is better. Let's just load up." I mean, I don't even question this. God is omniscient. Listen to me. He knows everything about everything. Why don't we trust Him? Why don't we trust Him?

Now, look at the next one. Realize that God is sovereign. Here's another cool thing about God. He's always in control of all things at all times. Let me give you the definitive verse. You need to write this down, okay? You can memorize it. It's pretty easy. Psalm 115:3. Here's what it says.

³God's in heaven, He does as He pleases.

Thank you and good night. If you need to know a verse about God's sovereignty, there are a lot of 'em but that's the one you need. Psalm 115:3. God is in heaven and He does what He pleases. Let me show you something else and He doesn't change. See, people change. Listen to this. Look at James 1:17. Great verse. James 1:17. I'll slow down. Make sure it's on the screen.

¹⁷*Every good and perfect gift is from above. Coming down from the Father of heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.*

As the sun's moving man, shadows are changing all the time. God does not change. If you drop down to verse 8 of the same passage we're in, Hebrews, same chapter, chapter, Hebrews 13, it says He's the same yesterday, today, and forever. Now, He is so sovereign. He is so in control of everything that even when you decide to do your own thing and you become disobedient, He still rules. He still reigns. See, also Jonah. He said, "Jonah, my will, my perfect will is that you go to Nineveh, you tell the Ninevites about Me and they get, they will get saved. That is My will." Jonah says, I don't really like that plan. I'm going to get in a boat and go the opposite direction." And, and God basically says, "Okay, we can go easy or we can go hard. Doesn't make any difference to me? Let me tell you what My will is. Let Me tell you how you don't run things and I do." And so, you know the rest of the story. He went to Nineveh. He shared the Gospel. They got saved. God is sovereign. That should not scare you. That that should embolden you and give you courage because He is your Heavenly Father.

And here's the thing that I'd already mentioned about when I thought about don't make it health and wealth. Fourth thing, continually remind ourselves what true riches are. Bible says, be rich in good works. God's word says, store up treasure in heaven. I love that. He's not opposed to you having treasure. Just send it on ahead, okay? Our deepest joy doesn't rise and fall on what we have when we realize we have Christ. Do you hear that? Christ is enough. So, that's the first thing. If I'm going to learn to live without fear, I've got to understand His provision.

Here's the second thing. I need to understand His presence. It's the key phrase in this verse, still in verse five,

⁵*...I will never leave you nor forsake you.*

Now, it's mentioned about seven or eight times that same line in the Bible but it was it was spoken to Joshua before he enters the promise land. Joshua 1:5 & 9. I want to read portions of that because it's so good. Look what it says, Joshua chapter 1, verse 5 and verse 9.

⁵*....I will not leave you or forsake you.*

He's about to go on the promised land. Everybody's bigger than they are. Everybody's stronger than they are and it's going to be tough and he's afraid.

⁹*...Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened. Do not be dismayed. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.*

And even Jesus told the disciples in the upper room. I'm going to go away but I want you to something. It's better that I go away because if I go away, then I'm going to send the Holy Spirit to come and live in you 24/7. You know, this in May besides proms, there's always graduation. You know, I can't tell a high school Christian that's in high school what they're going to experience in college. I don't know that. God does. He's omniscient. But I don't know that. I can't tell a university student that's about to go on the big old world and, and make their way. I can't tell them what's going to go on. I don't know what they're going to face. But one thing, here's what I do know if they are God's child. He will never leave you nor forsake you. I can tell him that. And the word forsake, by the way, means I will never abandon you. I will never give up on you. Watch this. I'll never quit on you. Cuz here's what you gotta understand. Here's why he'll never quit on you. There are a lot of reasons but here's the main reason. You don't hold on to Him, He holds onto you. That's pretty good grip. That's pretty good grip. He's, you may quit on Him. He's never going to quit on you. That's a God I can serve and that's a God I can focus on. Now, Adrian Rogers gives a great story that he tells about this particular passage actually. This line about the presence of God. He says, it's like this, if you're at home and you hear a knock on the door, and it's the enemy to come cause you to doubt or fear. You just say, "Lord Jesus, would you please get up and go answer the door?" I like that. Adrian's good. He's good.

So, here's what we have. We have His provision to focus on. We His presence to focus on and I love this third thing. We have His promise. Look at the, the phrase right before, He'll, I'll never leave you, never forsake you. One translation says it this way, He, three words, He has said. He has said. Just one little phrase. Now, let me ask you this. Have you ever had someone tell you something that it didn't come true? Have you ever had someone promise you something and it didn't happen? For example, and some maybe in here, we love you and you do your best. The weatherman or the weather woman. I'm not a biologist. I don't know. But anyway, thank you. Here's the deal. Here's the deal, okay? The weather forecaster. Let's say that. They tell you it's going to rain. Guess what? It don't rain. Friend owes you money and they say, "The checks in the mail." Here's a really good one. If you love to fish like I do, a friend tells you, he shows you pictures. This is way back before cameras on our phones. Shows you pictures of the hundred white bass they caught on the Yegua. Yegua Creek coming in out of Sommerville, right? I'll name the guy. The name is Carson Watt. His kids were in my youth group. Anybody, anybody have Carson Watts phone number? Raise your hand. You have it? Yeah, anybody else got it? Anybody got it for real? I have it but I'm busy right now. If you have it, text him, say "Tim Skaggs is using you as a sermon illustration." It's fine. I don't care. Carson Watt would always show me in the spring at the White Bass he and his sons caught on the Yegua and he'd go, "I'm going to take you one day." Hello. I'm still here. I haven't gone anywhere. My nickname for Carson is Yegua. That's what I call him, okay? Oh well, people will let you down, right? Here's the deal. The promise is only, but God will never let you down. It's true. And I could put my name in there. Promise is only as good as the one who makes it. That's what Paul David Tripp says. God's promises are only as good as to the extent He is sovereign. Now, listen to this. It's not Bible but it's good. Listen to this. It it refers to to truth of Scripture. He can deliver what we need. Watch this. Only in places where He rules. You know why that's good news? Because He rules everywhere. He can only deliver in places where He rules. That's why all the promises of God are yes in Jesus. The number one promise is found right here. I'll never leave you or forsake you. Hebrews 6. It's impossible for God to lie. Joshua 21:45, you might want to memorize this one. Here's what it says.

⁴⁵Not one promise God has made ever failed. All came to pass.

You can count on him. You can trust him. We have confidence in the promises of God because we know the person of God. What is the thing say, the phrase say, “He has said.” Well, who is He? We know who He is. He’s omnipresent, omniscient, and omnipotent. Here’s the deal. If you this year, you may utter these words the rest of this year. “Lord, I’m afraid about what might happen.” The omnipresent God says, don’t be afraid. I’ll be with you. You don’t go alone. You may say, “God, I don’t know what to do.” The omniscient God who knows everything about everything says, “I know exactly what to do.” So, you just do this. Or you may say, “God, I don’t have the strength.” The omnipotent God, the all powerful one said, “There’s nothing that will ever come up in your life that I can’t handle. I’m stronger than anything that’ll ever come against you. Luke 1:37.

So, as we think about the omnipotent God, we go to the fourth thing because you know, the provision and the presence and the promise of God, here’s what you have, last thing, you have His protection. You have his protection. This is good. Verse six, look what it says. Then you can boldly say, then, after all these three things we’ve looked at, okay? His provision, His presence, and His promises. Then, you can boldly say, the Lord is my helper, I will not fear. What will man do to me? Focus on that phrase, the Lord is my helper. Here’s the point, He fights. That verse just says He fights for you. He fights for you. If you’ll allow Him to, He’ll fight for you. In Exodus 14, that whole chapter is about the Red Sea moment and the children of Israel, their backs are against the wall, if you will, the Red Sea is behind them. Mountain to this side, mountain to this side, desert in front of them, and they see a cloud of dust because it’s the army of Egypt. They’ve got horses, they’ve got chariots, they’ve got weapons, they’ve got armor, they have everything they need. It would be an easy, easy battle to win and they know it. The children of Israel don’t have any weapons. They don’t have any armor and they see this vast army coming against them and in verse 14 of Exodus 14, look what is said through Moses. He says this, the Lord will fight for you. Don’t miss this. You only need to keep silent. You only need to keep silent. Just be still. Here’s would be my thing if I was translating all that. I’d say, the Lord will fight for you. Don’t try to help God out. Have you ever tried to help God out like he needs help? I have. The reason I know that line is because I’ve done it. I’ve tried it. It didn’t work but I’ve tried it. Don’t try to help God out. Now, here’s, when you try to help God out. When you go, “You know, I got this, it’s not a big deal. I got this one. You just stay over here. I’ll call you when I need you when something bigger comes up, but I got this one. I don’t need you all the time because I got this one.” See, when you’re trying to help God out and you think you can win the battle, that’s called pride. That’s what that’s called. Now, the Bible says there’s something about this word pride and you don’t want to have it because here’s what the Bible says. God is opposed to the proud but He gives what? Grace to the humble. But I want to focus on that first phrase. God is opposed to the proud. You know what that literally means? God fights the proud. See, when you’re prideful, God doesn’t just, “Okay, I’ll just get out of your way and leave you alone. I mean, just do your thing.” No, He comes against you when you well up with pride. Wow, really? He’s so opposed, He will fight you if you have pride. Anybody want to get in the ring with God? I don’t. Don’t try to help God out. Be, be obedient to him. I mean, there’s a lot there. It’s a whole sermon there but just understand, I love this, the Lord will fight for you. You need only to keep silent. We need His protection.

That's the fourth thing. We need his protection. Sometimes, we're overwhelmed and we're outnumbered. Watch this video and you'll see what I'm talking about.

How you doing, Theodore? Nice backpack, Teddy. Can I see it? Hey! Sorry. Why do you guys always pick on me? Cuz you're a little four-eyed dork. Hey, where are you going, Teddy? Yeah, let's go. Wait up Theodore. We want to walk you home. Now he can't even see. Blind as a bat. Yeah. Sorry, sorry. And don't come back!

What did you learn from the sermon? That God is a Saint Bernard. That's what we learned. God has your back. God has your back. Listen, there's only two reasons to be afraid. One is you're not a child of God. A crowd this size, I'm telling you, there's some people here that, I mean, you may go to church, may read your Bible, may pray, I don't know, but deep down, you know, you're not a child of God. Then you should be afraid because that means you're doing life on your own. John 1:12 says, all who believe and all who receive, he gives them right to become children of God. We're all image bearers of God but only those who not only believe the truth of the Gospel but they've taken a knee. They've bowed down and they said, "You're my King, You're my Lord. I receive you as my Savior and my Lord." All who call on the name of the Lord will be saved. So, some of you today, you need to cry out. "God, I need Your protection. I need Your presence. I need Your provision. I need Your promises. I'm desperately in need. Will You please come be my Lord and Savior?" So, if you're not a child of God, you need to be afraid. And here's the second group here today. You are a child of God but He is not the most important thing in your life. Listen, I don't know what's number one in your life but you do. You can try to pretend it's Jesus. There are times, I'm telling you, that Jesus is not been number one in my life. Sometimes, it's just up and down deal that's going on. So, my question to you is, are your finances, your 401K, your financial future. Is that number one in your life? Okay? Is it your children? Is it your spouse? Is it your job? What's number one in your life? See, if Jesus isn't number one in your life, then you do need to be afraid. You do need to be afraid because that means you're doing that life in your own strength. What should be number one? Listen to me. What should be number one is something you can never lose. Then you'll have courage. Then, you won't have fear. If number one is something you can never lose, then, you're in great shape. You're in wonderful position because guess what? You can lose your job. You can lose your spouse. Matter of fact, Jamie and I been out of town. We came back and we've got two friends we found out are going through a divorce. You can lose your marriage. You lose your kids, you can lose your job. I'll never leave you or forsake you. You can never lose Jesus. You can't. So, he should be number one.

So, let's do the kiss method this morning. Let's keep it simple son, for the men; and keep it simple sister, for the women. We don't want to use that other word. Let's look at this picture. That's you. Let's just keep it simple. That's you spiritually speaking. There's a whole lot in this world that's, that's bigger than you. You will be outnumbered on this planet. You will come against many things we've all been anxious. We've all been fearful. You'll come against many things that are bigger than you are. When you first met Jesus, you were needy and scrawny and you're needy and scrawny now. If you go life without Him, if you go like without Him. So, remember, when things come against you and it's too big for you, remember this, greater is He, watch this, that is in you than He that is in the world. Not as greater, greater as you, greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world. If you remember the David Goliath story, I love this, came across Facebook this week and I picked it up and I'm using it. When

David faced Goliath, he never talked how dangerous and scary and powerful Goliath was. He only talked about great God is. You go check it. He only talked about how great God is.

Now, we're going to close out here. Remember I told you at the beginning, I did that top 10 things people are afraid of. So, let's take off the mask. Let's be real, okay? Cuz I want to I want to be genuine with you. There was one that was on that list besides spiders and insects that I could relate to immediately. Seriously, it's huge. Probably the biggest thing in my life and it's scared of speaking before large crowds. You know what we call that? Stage fright. You know who has it? Me. Seriously, you're can to ask my wife. I've been speaking in front of people for a long time. I'm fearful every morning I get up to go do that. I just am and I've really gotta rely on the Lord. And so this message may not be for you but it's for me because if I lock into these four things, this truth, it'll be wonderful. It'll be wonderful. I'm going to just read this to you. It's not on the screen. Paul David Tripp said something else that I picked up this week. As a child of God, he calls you. He calls you not only for salvation but he calls you to live life with Him as your lead and your guide. But the one who calls you, here's what Paul Tripp says, the one, now listen to this, the one who calls you created the world and holds it together by His will. The one who called you has power over all things physical and spiritual. He rules every situation, location, and relationship. He is amazing in His wisdom, abundant in His grace, boundless in His love. He is saving, forgiving, transforming, and delivering. The one who calls you what He says is always best, what He requires is always good. Remember, we talked about the goodness of God. When He calls you, He goes with you. I'll never leave you or forsake you. What he calls you to do, He empowers you to do it. There's that omnipotence. He has the power to help you do it. When He guides, He protects. Same idea. He stands with power and faithfulness behind every one of His promises. They're His promises. He has never failed to deliver on anything. He has promised. There is simply no risk in following the King of Kings. Now, you will be afraid again. This is human nature, it's part of it. I will too okay? But I want us to, as His child, remember, don't focus on the circumstance that makes you fearful. This is for me. Focus on the one who will give you courage, the Lord. His provision, His presence, His promises, so that you clearly see His protection, and you're so close to Him at that point. You can hear him whisper, "Do not be afraid."

Let's pray.

Father, we love You. What a great truth. Uh I didn't write it. I'm just the bearer of it. It's good. God, I need this. There's so many times I'm anxious, I'm fearful, things that happen to me in this world just, they shake my foundation. But I think it's because at that moment, my foundation is not in You, it's on other things. So, God drive us, Holy Spirit of God, not just to our knees but into Your bosom, Heavenly Father, that we would understand that You will provide for us because we're Your children. You'll never leave us. You'll never forsake us. Your presence is always with us. You never lie and you have great promises that we need to claim, and they're conditional, but we need to claim 'em. And the bottom line is we don't have to be afraid because You will, You are the power. You will protect us. We love You and we thank You most of all for Jesus. In Christ's name, I pray. Amen.