

God Is on Our Side

By RLD Editorial Team

for use as
STEP 1 **Lesson 4****Focus:**

With God's help, we can overcome any fear.

Lesson 4**Bible Basis:**

2 Kings 6:8-23

Lesson 4**Memory Verse:**

The LORD's unfailing love surrounds the man who trusts in him.
—Psalm 32:10

Students will understand God is on our side and learn how He will help us overcome our fears.

Materials:

- Internet access
- Paper
- Pens/pencils
- Whiteboard and marker (or screenshared document)

If your class is meeting online, invite your students to supplies with them to class.

As your students enter the classroom, ask them to think of as many synonyms as they can for the word *fear*. Distribute supplies (or invite students to have them ready at home.) **A synonym is a word that means the same thing. For example, another word for fear is *afraid*. Try to think of as many examples as you can.**

- **What words did you come up with that describe “fear?”** (Allow students to share from the lists they've created as you write their answers on the whiteboard (or screenshared document if you class is meeting online). Answers might include: scared; panic; anxiety; fearfulness; dread; fright; horror; terror, etc.)
- **Have you ever experienced any of these emotions? Explain.** (Have students share their experiences; make sure to share your own experience of being fearful.)

Have your preteens save their list of fear synonyms for use in Step 4.

It might be hard to consider that even adults who have lived more years than us have fear. However, most people wrestle with fear, especially when things in the world around us feel especially challenging. In a time of political uncertainty, multiple wars in other parts of the world, and increasing financial challenges, many adults are struggling with fear. One study by Chapman University found that things like government corruption and economic uncertainty are among the top fears for American adults.

It's hard to believe that everyone has fears just like us. We might think that life experience, wisdom, or money would take those fears away, but as we can see, they don't. We all struggle with fear. The question is: how do all of us overcome our fears?

Today we're going to learn about a man who was fearless. His name was Elisha, and he chose to trust God even in the face of grave danger. How can we overcome fear like Elisha? What did he know that we don't know? Let's find out.

Story Source:

The Top 10 Fears in America 2023

<https://blogs.chapman.edu/wilkinson/2023/10/20/the-top-10-fears-in-american-2023/>

Additional resources:

FEAR Synonyms

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/fear>

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

Lesson 4 / March 24, 2024

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Materials:

- Whiteboard and marker (or screenshared document)
- Fear list from Step 1
- Index cards (1 per student)
- Pens/pencils (1 per student)

If your class is meeting online, invite your students to supplies with them to class.

Earlier we learned that when God is on our side, we can overcome any situation. As believers in Jesus Christ, God is ALWAYS in our corner. The angel armies that showed up to defend Elisha are God's army! Ask two volunteers to read Psalm 34:7 and Psalm 32:10. Think about that. God has an army who encircles us; His unfailing love surrounds those who trust in Him. What do we have to fear?

Those verses are powerful! What amazing evidence of the work God does in the heavenly realms. He will take care of His people; He tells us so over and over in the Bible.

The best way we can overcome our fears is learning verses just like the ones we just read. These verses will give us confidence because God speaks through them specifically to us and our situations. When we hear God speak to us directly it breathes life into us! We gain such confidence in knowing God's greater than any fear we have.

Ask preteens to take a look at the list of fears they wrote in Step 1. Distribute supplies (or invite students to have them ready at home). Have them copy down the list of Scripture references on fear as you write them on the whiteboard or screen-shared document.

Verses on fear:

- Joshua 1:9
- Matthew 6:34
- Psalm 23:4
- Psalm 34:4-7
- Psalm 27:1
- Psalm 56:3-4

- 1 Corinthians 16:13
- Isaiah 41:13-16
- Deuteronomy 31:6
- Psalm 115:11

Encourage your students to look up and write down the entire verses once they get home.

➤ **How will memorizing these Bible verses help you?** (Answers will vary but may include: I'll be able to recall them anytime I'm dealing with fear; knowing the verses will increase my faith in God's power, etc.)

➤ **How will praying these verses help you?** (Some possible answers: Praying them is the best way to share with God how I'm feeling and what I believe about Him; praying and believing God's Word will give me peace in any situation, etc.)

Encourage your preteens to memorize and pray these verses in their quiet times with God this week or as they're walking through the halls at school or riding the bus in the morning. **With God's help you can overcome any fear or trial you come up against. If you are a follower of Jesus, He is on your side. His unfailing love surrounds you and His angels encamp around you. You have nothing to fear!**

Pray to close.

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