

Study Through the Bible

A House of Wisdom – Study 2

PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE

Clear the Debris of Misunderstanding

Most people react negatively to fearing the Lord, yet we cannot experience God's fullness without it.

As we continue to construct our house of wisdom, we have to clear away the debris of misinformation. If we reject the fact that we need to fear the Lord, we don't have a clear understanding of what it means. Last week we laid a foundation. This foundation will be solid, but it isn't quite ready. There is still some debris, or misunderstandings, down in the footings. In this study we will identify and eliminate this debris.

Scripture:

Proverbs 9:10–11; 10:27; 19:23; 28:14

Based on:

"A House of Wisdom," Series Builder by Jeffrey Arthurs, PREACHING TODAY SERMONS



PART 1

Identify the Current Issue

In C.S. Lewis' classic novel *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, Mr. Beaver describes the majestic Lion, Aslan, who is a type of Christ. When asked by one of the children if Aslan is safe, Mr. Beaver replies: "Who said anything about safe? 'Course he isn't safe. But he's good. He's the King, I tell you."

PART 2

Discover the Eternal Principles

Teaching point one: Most of us have some debris in our beliefs.

Teaching point two: Most of us have some debris in our attitudes.

[Q] With which statement do you find yourself agreeing most:

- 1) I can't fear God and trust him at the same time.
- 2) I have to fear God in order to trust him. Otherwise, he's no more powerful than me.
- 3) I can't fear God and experience his love at the same time.
- 4) Because I fear God, I'm astounded that he would love me.

Why did you choose the statement you did? Do you find yourself agreeing with more than one statement? What is the difference between the four positions? What is at stake in each position?

Teaching point three: The Bible says we should fear because it leads to life.

PART 3

Apply Your Findings

Isaiah 33:6 says, "He will be the sure foundation for your times, a rich store of salvation and wisdom and knowledge; the fear of the Lord is the key to this treasure."

The fear of the Lord is the key to this treasure. The fear of the Lord is a refuge, a secure fortress, and a fountain of life. It is a foundation for a house of wisdom (skillful living), situated in the valley of *shalom*.

