



**Moving  
from  
Fear to  
Love**



# The Voices of Fear

“The unemployment rate is rising. Housing is in collapse. Manufacturing is weak. The unionized auto sector is dying before our eyes. Commodities are falling hard and fast. In this situation, the nation faces a real peril... We should be terrified by this prospect.”

-Ben Stein, “The New York Times”  
(November 21, 2008)



# The Temptation of Fear

“We are fearful people....Fear has become an obvious dwelling place, an acceptable basis on which to make our decisions and plan our ...So much power is wielded by instilling fear in people and keeping them afraid... As long as we are kept in fear we can be made to act, speak, and even think as slaves...The agenda of our world – the issues and items that fill newspapers and newscasts – is an agenda of fear and power.” – Henri Nouwen



## The Tender Voice of Love

“Peace I leave with you;  
my peace I give you. I  
do not give to you as the  
world gives. Do not let  
your hearts be troubled  
and do not be afraid.”

(John 14:27, NIV)



# Three Invitations from Jesus

Homelessness

to

Intimacy

Bareness

to

Fecundity

Mundane

to

Ecstasy



## Three Invitations from Jesus

“Remain in me, and I will remain in you.”

(John 15:4)

“If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit.”

(John 15:5)

“Now remain in my love...I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.” (John 15:9, 11)



Homelessness

to

Intimacy

“I will remain in you.”

Bareness

to

Fecundity

“Bear much fruit.”

Mundane

to

Ecstasy

“My joy may be in you.”



Homelessness

to

Intimacy

“Remain in me, and I will remain in you.” (John 15:4, NIV)

The call to come home, is a call to make our refuge in God. He is our great reward and our hiding place from every storm. With Him is forgiveness and restoration.



Homelessness

to

Intimacy

“At that time I will gather you; at that time I will bring you home. I will give you honor and praise among all the peoples of the earth when I restore your fortunes before your very eyes,” says the LORD.

(Zephaniah 3:20, NIV)



**Bareness**

**to**

**Fecundity**

Fecundity = Fruitfulness

“No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.” (John 15:4-5)



**Bareness**

**to**

**Fecundity**

The Call to bear fruit is to rediscover God is the ground of all progress, development and growth.

“But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.” (Deuteronomy 8:18. NIV)



**Mundane**

**to**

**Ecstasy**

“I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.”  
(John 15:11, NIV)

The Call to Ecstasy (*Ekstasis*) is a call to be on the move with God, to go on His journey. There is great joy in this journey.



Mundane

to

Ecstasy

“You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.”  
(Psalm 16:11, NIV)



## Moving from Fear to Love

“But fearful questions never led to love-filled answers; underneath every fearful question many other fearful questions are hidden.... Fear engenders fear. Fear never gives birth to love. A careful look at the gospels shows that Jesus seldom accepted the questions posed to him. He exposed them as coming from the house of fear...He gently put them aside as questions emerging from false worries. They were raised out of concern for prestige, influence, power, and control. They did not belong to the house of God.”

– Henri Nouwen



## Moving from Fear to Love

“There is no fear in love.  
But perfect love drives out  
fear...”

(1 John 4:18, NIV)

“Do not be afraid. I am the  
First and the Last.”

(Revelation 1:17, NIV)



**Come Home**

**Bear Fruit**

**Have Joy**



# Jesus is our Home

He gives us the ability  
to produce fruit

In Jesus, our lives can  
be turned into His joy