

Bucket Talk – Fear

Bible Verses

Proverbs 1:7 *The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline*

1 Corinthians 10:13 No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.

Romans 8:31 What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us?

How does the dictionary define Fear? Fear is the anxious anticipation of danger or pain.

What do you fear? What are you afraid of? There are many things in life that people fear. Sharks, heights, sirens, snakes, teachers, the basement, under the bed, storms, public speaking, spiders, lightning, dogs, thunder, a boss, a parent, death, etc. Baseball & Softball players are no exception. Striking out, dropping the ball, getting injured, losing, conditioning, high heat, a collision at the plate, bigger opponents and many, many more.

When most people begin their faith journey and start spending time reading the Bible they often become confused because they are told that God is our loving Heavenly Father, but they also read that they are to "Fear the Lord". What does THAT mean. Well, the biblical definition of fear, such as "Fear the Lord", is looked at a bit differently than the traditional definition of fear mentioned above. You me ask "if God loves me so much and is there for me any and all the time, then why should I fear him"? Well fear in that Biblical context means to have ultimate respect; to be in awe of; to have a feeling or attitude of deep respect. Fear comes from the word revere or reverence, which means to regard with great respect and awe.



Proverbs 1:7 says "the fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline". Everything you are and everything that you have come from God. And this is precisely why we all need to be in awe of God...or "Fear God". From the air you breathe to the sports you play to the food you eat, it all comes from God. EVERYTHING! And knowledge is learning how to interpret God's word, the Bible. Therefore the word fear in the Bible, the vast majority of the time, has a positive meaning. The word fear is mentioned 365 times in the Bible.

Now, going back to the traditional meaning of fear, God has shared a couple of passages that show us that we should never have to fear or be afraid of anything in life. In 1 Corinthians 10:13, He says that He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear because He will provide a way out so that you can stand up under the temptation. For me, Romans 8:31 says it very simply. "If God is for us, then who can be against us"?

With these assurances we should have no fear! Seek knowledge through your Heavenly Father, his love letter to you (The Bible), your parents, your teachers, and your coaches. May God continue to bless you!