

Light | of Jesus in my life

When I Am Stuck in My Fear

John 19:38-42

April 2, 2023

Introduction: It's not what you see that drives your life; it's what you don't see. The turn in the road. The root across the trail. Even more, the things inside you. The parts of yourself that even you don't see, hidden in shadow. Longings, secrets, fears... When you meet Jesus, what you notice is not just what you see in him, but what you see in yourself. And his light shining beauty into your life. It all comes out in St. John's passion. And it comes out in our lives too as we approach the light of Jesus's greatest hour.

Prayer: Father, as we look into your Word together, help us to grasp what you've already conquered on our behalf and free us from the shackles that keep us stuck in our fears. Amen

Read: John 19:38-42

Review: What ideas do you have about how our church could live more like family?

Discussion:

1. What do Nicodemus and Joseph have to fear from the Jewish Leaders? See John 7:50; John 9:22; Acts 5:40; Acts 7:54-58
2. What are Joseph and Nicodemus giving up for their service? See also Numbers 9:6
3. Why is a new tomb significant? See Psalm 16:10; Acts 2:22-28
4. What are your fears? How can you bring them to God? What verses have you found helpful in the past? Here are a few more to consider: 2 Timothy 1:6-7; Romans 8:15; 1 Peter 5:7; Matthew 6:25-34; Philippians 4:6; Psalm 34:19

Application: Try to shorten the time between feeling a fear and bringing it before God in prayer.

Prayer: Father, in the days ahead continue to remind us of what we discovered about you and about our fears. Retrain us to rely upon you rather than fall prey to our fears. Amen.