

Proverbs 9:10

Life in Wisdom's House

2. Beginning with Fear

Where it all starts ...

I. The Fear of Folly

- A. Doesn't Disappear
- B. Desperate Denial
- C. Does Damage

II. The Fearsome Love

- A. Of an Awesome God
- B. Known in Christ
- C. Transforming Life

III. The Fear of Faith

- A. Constantly Aware
- B. Joyfully Awed
- C. Reverently Living

... and never ends.

Children, Listen ...

1. What are some things that amaze you about God?
2. Why might those things make people fear Him?
3. How did God show His love for sinners like us?
4. What are some ways we show respect and honor for God?

The Fear Factor

The fear of the fool who suppresses the knowledge of God produces dread. He can't completely forget God so He can't escape the terror that lingers deep down inside due to the fact that he is in rebellion against Him. In an attempt to quash such inner agony, he comes up with ways to escape it. In contrast, the fear of God that follows reconciliation to Him has an entirely different sense to it. Terror is replaced with joy, attempts to suppress the knowledge of Him is replaced with a desire to know Him better, and peace has vanquished the anxiety caused by the fear of judgment. Because of what the Lord has done through Christ, believers can delight in the knowledge of God, and enjoy a holy reverence for Him. Grace makes all the difference. Through His sovereign mercy, awful fear has turned to an awe-inspired fear that we call reverence. God has not changed, but thanks be to God, we have. Now we can live this life in reverent awe for our amazing God, and we can look forward to an eternity of amazement basking in the presence of His infinite glory.