



Why We have No Fear of Death

Francis Chan

Serving Leaders in Ministry

Pastor: Our current global crisis presents a unique opportunity for believers to share the hope of the gospel with others. He exhorted Christians not to allow fear to rob them of love, joy, or peace but instead to remember that because of what Jesus has done for us, we can have no fear of anything—not even death. Francis Chan reminds us why we can have no fear of death. He encourages the church during hardship. Read his encouragement below.

“We are people who are supposed to be fearless, just absolutely fearless,” said Chan. Fearless trust in God enables us to love those around us well. *“This is one of the greatest opportunities we’ve ever had as a church where people are open to talking about serious things, life and death things.”*

It has only been three weeks since Francis Chan and his family left the United States to be missionaries in Hong Kong. Right before they left, Chan and his wife gathered their children together and asked how they were feeling about the move. Most of them expressed mixed emotions, saying they felt sad about leaving their friends but excited to live in another country. They weren’t too worried about the coronavirus at the time. Yet when the Chans asked their five-year-old, Silas, how he was feeling, the boy started crying and said, *“I’m just so sad that all these people are dying in China.”*

That made them pause, said Chan, as they realized, *“He’s the only one who has the right perspective.”*



Because of the instability the pandemic has introduced into our lives and the fear and anxiety that can accompany it, "it's so easy for us to lose what we're supposed to be all about, which is to be these people who are loving, that are concerned that hundreds of people every day are dying and many headed to an eternity apart from Christ."

With that in mind, Chan had words of encouragement for his "We Are Church" family and for all believers navigating the pandemic.

"First," he said, "Don't lose your love. Continue to live out of the love of God, seeking His will about how to serve the people around you."

Second, Chan encouraged believers not to lose their joy. In Philippians (a book Paul wrote while imprisoned), the apostle tells his readers, *"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"* It is disappointing that we can't meet in large groups and are unable to worship together as a larger body. However, said the pastor, *"Don't stop rejoicing of the fact that right now you can be alone in your room, even if you're isolated, and be in the presence of Almighty God... We have to rejoice in that always."*

Hear Francis Chan's encouragement via video here:

<https://churchleaders.com/news/373186-francis-chan-no-fear.html>

OR, scan the QR code below.



We don't need to be in large crowds to be in God's presence, nor do we need to be in large crowds to take Communion. *"Some of my most meaningful times of Communion have been just with the family or with two buddies,"* said Chan, adding, *"Let's get even deeper during this time, and let's find joy in this."*

1 Peter 1:6-8: *"In this [we] greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, [we] have been distressed by various trials, so that the proof of [our] faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ; and though [we] have not seen Him, [we] love Him, and though [we] do not see Him now, but believe in Him, [we] greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, obtaining as the outcome of [our] faith the salvation of [our] souls."*

