



1 John

4:16-21

New International Version  
1984 (NIV1984)

## Confronting Fear

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. <sup>17</sup>This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. <sup>18</sup>There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

<sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister. **1 John 4:16-21**

✧ Life is filtered through **EXPECTATIONS**

# Encounters

## LENT 2013

### CONFRONTATIONAL DISCIPLESHIP

The Fear of **EMPTINESS**. (meaninglessness)

The Fear of **SUCCESS**. (small ambitions)

The Fear of **INTIMACY**. (who I am)

“Fear is crippling, a fearful life—fear of death, fear of judgment—is one not yet fully formed” 1 John 4:18 (Msg)

#### ✧ The Promise of **PRESENCE**

“No one will be able to stand up against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you.” Joshua 1:5

“I will be with you always, even to the end of the age.” Mt 28:20

#### ✧ The Intimacy of the **TABLE**

“Take and eat; this is my body.” Matt 26:26

#### ✧ The Confidence of **EXPERIENCE**

“Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” “Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I love you.” Jesus said, “Feed my lambs.” John 21:15



“The best argument for Christianity is Christians: their joy, their perseverance, their completeness. But the strongest argument against Christianity is also Christians – when they are somber and joyless, when they are self-righteous and smug in complacent consecration, when they are narrow and repressive, then Christianity dies a thousand deaths.” J Aldrich

“We were promised sufferings. They were part of the program. We were even told, 'Blessed are they that mourn,' and I accept it. I've got nothing that I hadn't bargained for. Of course it is different when the thing happens to oneself, not to others, and in reality, not imagination.”C.S. Lewis