

## A BIBLICAL STUDY ON FEAR

### LESSON TEN: CALL ON GOD

by Sandy Harber

**"Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not."  
Jeremiah 33:3**

When I found my husband lying sideways across the bed, unresponsive, I immediately called 911. The situation was beyond my control and I needed help. That's what the 911 operator was there for: to render aid and comfort in a fearful situation.

It's one of the services that God provides, too. In times of fear call the Lord for aid and comfort. His phone number is Jeremiah 33:3. He's waiting for your call. God already knows the problem. He's waiting for you to acknowledge that you cannot handle it alone and need His help.

You will never receive a busy signal when you call God. He's available to you 24/7. When Jesus died the veil in the temple was split from top to bottom opening the way to God (Matthew 27:51). We now have access to the throne of grace through faith in Jesus (Hebrews 4:14-16). This is one of the many benefits available to those who are born again (that is, made alive spiritually), becoming part of God's family (John 3:3). Call out to your Father when you are afraid.

King Zedekiah had imprisoned Jeremiah for prophesying that Jerusalem would fall to Babylon (Jeremiah 43:2-3). The city was already under siege. King Nebuchadnezzar's army surrounded Jerusalem. God spoke to Jeremiah in his helpless situation (Jeremiah 33:1). "Call unto Me," God said. Who else could rescue the prophet from this situation?

When you are afraid call on God. He is your first line of defense. Too often we fret and worry and try to find a way out of our troubles. We wait and don't pray about the situation until there are no other options. How much anguish could we have avoided if we had taken our problems to Jesus first?

God said to call on "Me." God personally wants to handle your problems. He assures you "I will answer thee." Not an angel. Not the pastor. God Himself. "I" will answer. What have you to fear when God is working on your problem Himself?

God promises that He will answer. Now that answer may not be what you wanted or expected but it will be the best answer for your situation. And in that answer you will see "great and mighty things." The word "great" means "to make large; increase; magnify." The word "mighty" means "strong; fortify; inaccessible by fortifications." In the answer you will see larger and stronger results than you could have imagined ("which thou knowest not").

God specifically tells us to call on Him "in the day of trouble" (Ps. 50:15). The Hebrew word translated "trouble" means "adversity, affliction, anguish, distress, tribulation." The word is akin to another word meaning "narrow; tight places." Have you ever been in a tight spot? A situation where there seems to be no options? The walls of the problem are closed all around you and there is no room to move? Play your get-out-of-jail-free card: call on God.

He promises to deliver (save) you. Just like Jeremiah 33:3, Psalm 50:15 language is personal. Call on "Me," God says. "I" will deliver you. God wants to rescue you from those things that cause you to fear, worry, or fret.

And your response will be to glorify Him. The word "glorify" means "cause to make weighty." That is, you make more of what is already there. God is honorable - you give Him more honor. You heap upon God praise for Who He is and what He has done.

The application of these verses is simple: at the first sign of trouble, pray. Don't let your fears take hold. Pray. Call on God and give those fears into His keeping. He has promised to give them His personal attention.

*"And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me."  
Psalm 50:15*