

Section: Doctrine of God

**DISCUSSION GUIDE**

**Q17. What does it mean to fear God?**

A: For the saved, fearing God is not a fear of His wrath, rather it is an awe—a reverence—for the holiness and majesty of God. It is also a humbleness and reasonable trembling towards God’s seriousness and power.

1. Read Psalm 36:1-2. What does the lack of the fear of God look like in our society? What does it look like in the church?
2. How does the gospel teach us to fear God rightly? How does it display His seriousness and wrath toward sin? How does it bring us peace ***and*** motivate us not to sin?
3. Read Psalm 111:10. How can we practice the fear of the Lord?
4. Read Proverbs 29:25. What is meant by “fear of man”? Why is the fear of man a snare?
5. Can you think of a time when your fear of God was set against your temptation to fear man? How did your fear of God give you peace? What is the result of fearing man over God?
6. Read Proverbs 23:17. How does “fear of the Lord” keep us from envy?
7. In what ways have you been prone to neglect a proper fear of God in your own life? Have you ever been careless or flippant in your worship of God?
8. Have you ever been afraid that God’s wrath was directed at you? Why is it sinful for Christians to fear in that way?
9. How is the fear of God comforting for the Christian?