

FEAR THE RIGHT THING

I wonder what frightens you the most at the moment? Being shown up in front of your friends? Failing exams? Your parents breaking up? Not having the right clothes or the right stuff to be part of the group?

We feel these things intensely. But the only way to conquer our fears is to see how small they really are next to Jesus. The powerful King who loves you, and gave his life so that you could be forgiven and

made whole. Strange as it may sound, the things you fear are nothing next to Him.

And to prove it, Jesus faced the greatest fear for us – Death.

THE GREATEST FEAR

Jesus – the loving King – was put to death by being nailed to a wooden cross, and then buried in a rock tomb. But on the third day he rose to life again.

Not as a ghost or a zombie, but as a living victorious King. He had taken

on the oldest enemy and won hands down.
Jesus 1 – Death 0.

Who is Jesus? He is God's true King who came into the world to win forgiveness and eternal life for people like you and me.

Who is Jesus? He's the King who deserves your honour and respect for who he is and what he has done for you.

Who is Jesus? He's the only one who will hold your hand through all the fears of this life, and bring you through the biggest fear of all – death – to eternal life.



To find out the full story about who Jesus is and why he came visit:

www.christianityexplored.org



Published by The Good Book Company.
UK: www.thegoodbook.co.uk USA: www.thegoodbook.com Australia: www.thegoodbook.com.au
Bible bits taken from New International Reader's Version. Used with permission
ISBN (single): 9781908762269 ISBN (pack of 25): 9781908762276

ISBN 978-1-90876-226-9



The
fright
of your life

look inside if you dare...



PEOPLE ARE TERRIFIED BY THE STRANGEST THINGS. TAKE SPIDERS. PEOPLE RUN SCREAMING FROM SOMETHING THAT IS TWO MILLION TIMES SMALLER THAN THEM.¹ GO FIGURE...



But it gets weirder. Arachnophobia (fear of spiders) is joined by loads of other "phobias" that people have. Can you guess which of these is not a genuine medically-recognised phobia – a fake?

Trisdekaphobia: Fear of the number 13 <i>(how about a spider with 13 legs?)</i>	Genophobia: Fear of knees <i>(oh, come on – that just ridiculous)</i>	Automatonophobia: Fear of human-like dummies or wax figures. <i>(Mme Tussauds anyone?)</i>
Venustraphobia: Fear of beautiful women	Didaskaleinophobia: The fear of going to school <i>(that's just normal isn't it?)</i>	Dextrophia: Fear of having objects situated to your right-hand side
Spectrophobia: Those who are too afraid to look at their own reflection in a mirror	Pteronophobia: The fear of being tickled with feathers	Sesquipedalophobia: Fear of long words <i>(like that one presumably...)</i>

¹ OK it might be different if you live in Australia, where some spiders are seriously nasty, but for the most part they are totally harmless. The average house spider weighs about 4mg – the average human 80kg – I think I got the maths right, but feel free to check...



Trick question! They're *all* real conditions that people suffer from. And now you've probably got Sesquipedalophobia from just having read them all.

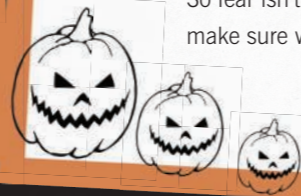
WHAT GOOD IS FEAR?

But is fear a bad thing, really?

We can be afraid of things that can't harm us; but it's a good thing to be fearful of things that can.

We're frightened of fire. Why? Because it's dangerous, and unless we act cautiously around it, we get hurt. So we respect fire – we fear it, so we treat it in the right way. Used properly, fire keeps us warm and barbecues sausages. Disrespect it, treat it wrongly, and your house, your looks, your future can go up in smoke.

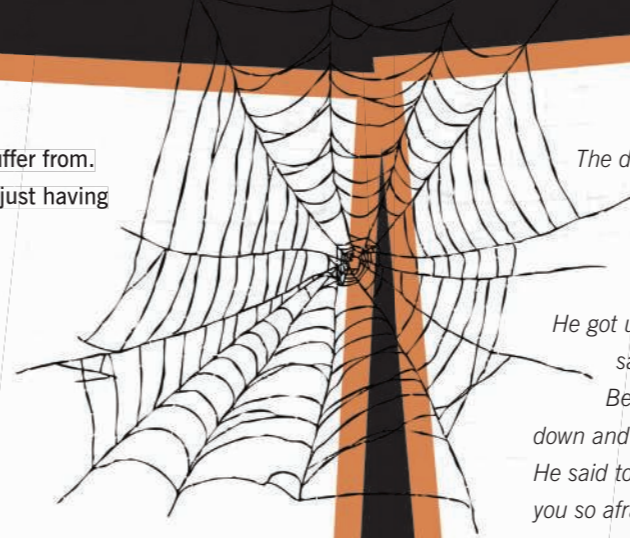
So fear isn't bad – we just have to make sure we are fearing the right



things in the right way. Because that can truly be a life saver.

There's a famous story from the Bible that illustrates the point. Jesus was in a boat on the Sea of Galilee with his friends (disciples), who were experienced sailors:

A furious storm came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion.



The disciples woke him and said to him, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?"

He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. He said to his disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?"

They were terrified and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!"

Mark's Gospel chapter 4v36-41

As terrifying as the storm's power is, **it is nothing** compared to the power of Jesus. And to show it he talks to the weather as though it were a yappy dog. He says: "Hush!" and the wind and waves immediately do as they are told.

The disciples start being afraid of the storm, but end up terrified of Jesus and his power. They ask a really important question: "Who is this?"

Everything Jesus did and said pointed to who he was. He was God, who had come to live in the world he had made.

And everything he did and said pointed to why he came. He came to sort out our sick, broken and frightened world, and put it back in touch with the God who gives it life.

Jesus deserves our respect for who he is. But he doesn't want us to be terrified of him. Because no one cares more for our world than Jesus.

And no one cares for you more than Jesus does.

