



## Part 2 | Fearless

For generations, Fred Rogers has been a beloved television personality among children who have been mesmerized by his calm and inviting presence and his positive and encouraging message of friendship. Everyone loves and admires Mr. Rogers. Some people see Jesus as a version of Mr. Rogers. While Jesus was certainly a model for Mr. Rogers, who himself was a Presbyterian minister, it is a mistake to view Jesus as simply meek and mild. By combining the biblical text along with the geographical and political realities of Jesus' day we learn that he was much more than meek and mild.

**Bottom Line:** Jesus is fearless. The better you know Jesus, the more fearless you become.

### Discussion Questions

1. When you were growing up, what was one of your fears? How did you overcome it?
2. Read Matthew 3:1-12, Luke 3:7-18, and Mark 1:14-15. What was the message of John the Baptist? What was the message of Jesus? Considering the political climate, how may have their message been encouraging to the people? How may it have been challenging to them? How may it have been a dangerous message to preach publicly?
3. Read Luke 14:25-35. What is most challenging to you about Jesus words? What relationships challenge your ability to follow Jesus? In what ways has following Jesus cost you? In what ways have you found it "worth it" to follow Jesus? What fears do you have about following Jesus?
4. Read 2 Timothy 1:7 and 1 John 4:16-18. What is timidity? How does it show up in a person's life? What role does love play in regard to fear? What role does God's love for you play in eliminating fears in your life?
5. Read Philippians 1:3-6. How does what Paul wrote here strengthen your faith and confidence in the face of your fears?

### Moving Forward

1. What has been the most helpful or encouraging thought/idea from the message this week? How has that thought/idea helped you?
2. What verse or passage from this study speaks to you the most? How would it help you to commit it to memory?
3. What fear do you need to confront in your life? Is there any way your community group can support you in this regard?

