

20 Fears

THAT KEEP US FROM
USING OUR GIFTS,
TIME AND RESOURCES



collide

Fear is defined as a strong emotion caused by great worry about something dangerous, painful, or unknown that is happening or might happen. Fear can be paralyzing and often keeps us from sharing our gifts, time and resources with the world. Below are common reasons our fears cause us to hold back, but God's word tells us He has given us everything we need and we do not have to be afraid:

1 *I don't have enough knowledge or experience.*

If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. [James 1:5](#)

2 *I'll look foolish*

The Lord said to him (Moses), "Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the Lord? Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say." [Exodus 4:11-12](#)

3 *I won't be able to do it well enough.*

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. [John 15:16](#)

4 *It's not special.*

We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully. [Romans 12:6-8](#)

5 *I lack self-control.*

For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline. [2 Timothy 1:7](#)

6 *I am unsure of the outcome.*

I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. [John 10:28](#)

7 *It could make things more complicated*

The Lord gives strength to his people; the Lord blesses his people with peace. [Psalm 29:11](#)

8 *There's too much risk involved*

Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. [Mark 4:25](#)

9 *It doesn't seem practical*

Moreover, when God gives someone wealth and possessions, and the ability to enjoy them, to accept their lot and be happy in their toil—this is a gift of God. [Ecclesiastes 5:19](#)

10 *I hate attention.*

If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen. [1 Peter 4:11](#)

11 *It should be easy and not hard.*

He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. [Isaiah 40:29](#)

12 *I don't have time or money.*

But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today. Deuteronomy 8:18

13 *I might have to give too much up.*

Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. Luke 6:38

14 *It's too emotional.*

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. John 14:27

15 *I might be judged by others.*

He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets prisoners free, the Lord gives sight to the blind, the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down, the Lord loves the righteous. Psalms 146:7-8

16 *I don't want to be in charge of anything.*

Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst? 1 Corinthians 3:16

17 *It seems too big of a sacrifice.*

He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Romans 8:32

18 *The timing isn't right.*

The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time. Psalms 145:15

19 *Somebody else should or will do it.*

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10

20 *I will never have enough physical or mental energy.*

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Matthew 11:28