Sermon Overview CEFC January 15th, 2023

Title: God's Prevailing Power

Passage: Ephesians 1:15-23

Introduction:

Question: Could there be something **KEEPING US** from fully **PARTICIPATING** in Gods "put it back together" plan?

Main Point: No matter what **POWERS** may be arrayed **AGAINST** us, God's **POWER** will always **PREVAIL**

Embracing God's Reasons to be Fearless

Our Problem: We have GOOD REASONS to be AFRAID

Principle: FEAR is the ENEMY of FAITH, HOPE, and LOVE

God's Solution: God has **BETTER REASONS** for us to be **FEARLESS**

Reason 1: We have a **CERTAIN** future

Reason 2: We are HIGHLY valued

Reason 3: We have access to God's PREVAILING POWER

CONCLUSION

Sermon Based Small Group Questions

- 1. What are you the most afraid of? How do you see fear playing out in our culture right now?
- 2. What are some of the side effects of fear in your life? What does fear do to you?
- 3. Does fear typically impair your faith in God or your love for others? How do you see that play out?
- 4. Pastor Eric shared two sources of fear: Fear Merchants deal in fear. Our Inner Lawyer is the voice in our own heads that we hear the most. What can you do to tune out the Fear Merchants and reprogram your Inner Lawyer?
- 5. Paul gave us three reasons we need not fear.
- a. We have a certain future, that is our hope
- b. We are highly valued, we are God's inheritance
- c. We have access to God's prevailing power

Which of these is most meaningful to you and why?

6. Pastor Eric shared that one of our best offensive weapons to combat fear is strategic prayer like the one Paul prayed over the Ephesians. Have each person share a fear they are facing right now and then pray Paul's prayer for each other over the next few weeks. Share what God has done the next time you gather.