FEAR

It is a word that emits strong emotions. We deal with it every day in one way or another. No one like it, but it is there nonetheless. It controls much of what we do. We drive our vehicles in a certain way because we fear danger if we don’t. Many eat certain kids of foods and avoid others because of fear of injuring their health.

Just don’t use it in church! You can talk about just about everything else but fear and never, ever talk to us about or use the word “hell.”

Many of the older generation remember hearing what came to be known as “hell fire and brimstone” sermons over the years. We don’t hear them anymore because we would be using the “wrong motivation.” Really?

Jesus said, “And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will warn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, who after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him.” (Luke 12:4-5)

A lot of things are driven by fear. Almost all TV advertising uses fear as a motivation to get people to buy. If you don’t buy this product, you will look bad, if you don’t use this product, you will not be well regarded, if you don’t use this product, you won’t fit in. It could go on ad infinitum.

But just don’t use it in church as a motivation tool. Do you suppose, just maybe, that the lack of its use have lulled many into a false sense of security? Think about it!

buttermilk1@mac.com
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