

Behold

DISCUSSION GUIDE I Week of January 25, 2026

GETTING STARTED

- Brandon named fear as one of the most powerful forces that can eclipse our view of God.
- What kinds of fears feel most present or pressing in your life right now?
- When you feel afraid or uncertain, what do you instinctively reach for to steady yourself?
- What stood out to you most from this week's sermon?
- Can you recall a season when fear subtly shaped your decisions more than trust in God did?

DIGGING INTO SCRIPTURE

Read **Isaiah 41:1–20** aloud together. Sit in 30 seconds of silence before beginning discussion.

- In verses 1–7, the nations respond to fear by turning to idols—things they hope will protect them.
 - Why do fear and idolatry so often go hand in hand?
 - What are some modern “idols” people turn to when life feels uncontrollable?
- In verses 8–10, God speaks directly to His people and reminds them that they are chosen and not rejected.
 - How does God's promise, “Do not fear, for I am with you,” address fear differently than self-reliance does?
 - Why do you think God's presence is the antidote to fear?

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DISCUSSION GUIDE CONT.

DIGGING INTO SCRIPTURE CONT.

- In verses 13–14, God describes Himself as the One who takes His people by the hand.
 - What does that image suggest about God’s posture toward fearful people?
 - How does this challenge the idea that we need to “be strong” on our own?

HONEST REFLECTION

- Brandon said that fear often pushes us toward good things that become ultimate things.
 - Where do you see that temptation at work in your own life?
- The sermon raised the question: Is God good, involved, and dependable?
 - Which of those questions feels hardest for you to trust right now?
- How does believing that God is actively holding you change the way you face uncertainty?

PRAYER & PRACTICE FOCUS

This week’s invitation was to Behold God with a Fear Audit.

- Over the next week, commit to 5-10 minutes a day of silence and stillness before God.
- As you sit, reflect on this question:
 - When I feel afraid, what do I instinctively reach for to steady myself?
- As you name that thing, ask the Lord:
 - If this fails, will You still hold me?
- Pray together:
 - “Help us release what cannot save us.”
 - “Teach us to trust the One who holds our hand.”
- End by thanking God and lifting up prayer requests.