VII. There is no other way than the Gospel

-The gaze of God

-Hebrews 10:1-18

-Living in community

"When we think of ourselves as alone and isolated, we will always be prone to fear other people. Isolation and the fear of man are close companions. Yet when we truly understand that God has called us to participate in a larger family (i.e., the church), we are free. Church begins to feel a little more like a family sitting with us in our living room. Better yet, we feel like a family sitting together at the feet of Jesus, sitting around the throne. With family, there is no self-consciousness, no embarrassment, no fear"

-Ed Welch, *When People are Big and God is Small*

Next Week: How do we Fear Man? We fear that people will reject us.

Core Seminars—Fear of Man

Class 3: How Do We Fear Man?
We Fear They Will Expose Us

"At the root of all experiences of shame is the sense that we have been exposed and uncovered. We know ourselves to be something other than what we hoped. And this revelation often comes when others come to see, accidentally and without warning, a side to us about which we feel vulnerable and embarrassed. We feel as if we have been wounded by what they now know, so the fear of scorn is part of the experience of shame, as is anxiety."

-David Wells, *Losing Our Virtue*

I. Why do we fear being exposed? (Gen. 2:25, 3:7)

-We are sinful; therefore, we will fear exposure.

-Because of sins that we have committed

-Because of the sins of others against us

II. How does shame and fear of exposure relate to other fears of others?

III. How do we demonstrate fear and avoid being exposed?

-We hide and cover.

-We seek to escape.

-We seek to uncover and expose others.

-In private

-At home—in close relationships

-At work

-At church

-Before God

IV. Shame and fear of exposure in our world today

-Tools of avoidance

-A culture of avoidance

-Response to fear of exposure

V. Examples of shame and fear of exposure in Scripture

-Adam and Eve

-David/Bathsheba/Uriah

-Proverbs 17:25

VI. In what ways are you fearing exposure before others?

-In what ways is your private life different from your public life?

-Are there sins that are easy to confess to God, but not to another person?

-What are the things about yourself that you would rather other people not know about?

-What are your tools of avoidance?