

SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Taking Care of Today's Problems

Matthew 6:25-34

Questions

- Ever wonder if you simply focused on today, how much you could accomplish?
 - † Forget the rest, in God's grace, do what you can right now! The next day, do what you can get done that day, and so on. You will eventually see some daylight!
- How do the imperatives "Do not worry," and "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness" relate to each other?
- Have you ever recognized there is a difference between feeling tired but satisfied, and feeling tired and dissatisfied?
 - † Using all the energies, you can finish a day tired but satisfied.
- Are you allowing worry to keep you from living as faithfully as you know you should? Right now are you worrying about worry?
- What does the Bible say about overcoming this sin of worry? It says you can!

God does not oppose thinking of tomorrow or planning for tomorrow.

What He is against is worry, that which tears apart.

Worrying and God-honoring planning are two entirely different matters.

COMMAND AND CONDITION

"Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness." Matthew 6:33a

"Do not worry about your life." Matthew 6:25

"Do not worry saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we wear?'" Matthew 6:31

"Do not worry about tomorrow." Matthew 6:34

"DO NOT WORRY" IS A CONDITION OF THE HEART

- Define the terms: Worry = anxiety/care, to divide, rip or tear apart.
- By faith in His promises God frees us from worry, and in this freedom we don't crave treasures on earth anymore.

TODAY WE'LL LOOK AT REASONS JESUS GIVES NOT TO BE ANXIOUS

- Jesus wants His disciples to be free from enslaving worry!
- He knows there will be wars and rumors of wars (Matthew 24:6).
- He knows He is sending us out like lambs amid wolves (Luke 10:3).
- He knows the time will come when those who kill you will think they are serving God (John 16:2).

JESUS GIVES EIGHT REASONS NOT TO WORRY

1. MY INNER MAN IS MORE THAN FOOD, BODY MORE THAN CLOTHING (Matthew 6:25)

Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?

- The bottom line defense against worry is: in Christ you are immortal, and to die is gain (Luke 12:4).
- There is something far worse than death, and it can never happen to you in Christ. So, don't worry!

2. WORRY ITSELF IS FUTURE FOCUSED (Matthew 6:26)

Are you not of more value than they?

- God is so in control of the universe that He feeds the birds of the air.
- You are of more value to God than they are (1 Peter 5:7). So don't worry!

3. WORRY IS CONCERN REGARDING SOMETHING YOU CAN DO NOTHING ABOUT (Matthew 6:27)

Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?

- Many Christians are stymied by this problem that accomplishes nothing.

4. WHO IS HOLDING THE WHOLE WORLD IN HIS HAND (Matthew 6:28-30)

Why do you worry about clothing?

- The grass and lilies God clothes last for a day, but you are eternal.
- Worry is a trust issue, and worry shows lack of faith in God.

Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

- When we act as if we hold the future in the palm of our hand, we worriers are arrogant. Submit and trust Him, "O you of little faith."

5. WORRY IS WORLDLY (Matthew 6:31-32a)

- Sinners want what's not theirs to have (tomorrow), and in doing so destroy joy. So, if you're worrying, you're like the world and destroying joy!

6. OUR HEAVENLY FATHER KNOWS WHAT WE NEED (Matthew 6:32b)

- Father means He loves you and you are on His heart as a child.
- Heavenly means He is sovereign over all the earth and nothing can stop Him from doing good to you.
- So rest in this: Your Heavenly Father knows what you need.

7. WORRYING KEEPS US FROM ASSUMING RESPONSIBILITIES AND SERVING (Matthew 6:33)

- God will supply all you need to do His will and His righteousness.

8. WORRIERS ARE REALLY CONTROL FREAKS (Matthew 6:34)

- Control freaks who want to control their futures rather than deal with today.

Cutting it Straight in 2008

GREAT IS YOUR FAITHFULNESS

Lamentations 3:22-23

What is there to worry about when you truly put your best plans into God's hands?

- James 4:13

What do I do about my concern if I must not be worried about tomorrow? How can I turn off my emotions?

- Matthew 6:34
- Focusing your concern on today is the key that locks the door on worry and opens the floodgates to peace and joy.

Most worrying people are lazy.

- Matthew 25:24-27

Godliness is an attitude towards life.

- 1 Corinthians 10:13

How can we encourage rather than enable?

- Husbands for wives: Genesis 3:16, 1 Timothy 2:15, Deuteronomy 6:1-9
- Wives for husbands: Genesis 3:17-19, 1 Timothy 6:6, Ephesians 5:33b

Thanks to Jay Adams for his work in "What do you do when you worry all the time?"

For completed notes of today's sermon, visit the FFC website – www.faithfellowship.us. Thanks.