

Why Should You Fight Worry?

Matthew 6:25-34

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Peter LaRuffa / Apr 26, 2020

- I. **You need to fight worry because it always competes with God for the throne of your heart.**

Matthew 6:24-25 “No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money. ²⁵ **Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious** about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on...”

Anytime you're worrying, God has been dethroned in your heart.

1 Corinthians 7:32-34 “I want you to be free from anxieties. The unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord. ³³ But the married man is anxious about worldly things, how to please his wife, ³⁴ **and his interests are divided...**”

- II. **You need to fight worry because God is a good Father who loves you & always provides for you.**

Matthew 6:26,28-29 “Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet **your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?**... ²⁸ And why are you anxious about clothing? **Consider the lilies of the field**, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.”

- A. Worry is a sign that you've forgotten God's consistent goodness to you, His child, always providing everything you need.

Job 38:41 “Who provides for the raven its prey, when its young ones cry to God for help, and wander about for lack of food?”

Psalms 37:25-26 “I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread. ²⁶ He is ever lending generously, and his children become a blessing.”

- B. Worrying about the things we need to survive is sinful and shows we have “little faith.”

Matthew 6:30 “But if **God so clothes the grass of the field**, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, **will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?**”

Jesus uses the phrase “O you of little faith” 5 times throughout the Gospels.

Every time, He's talking to people who are worried about food, clothing, or life span.
(Matthew 6:30; 8:26; 14:31; 16:8; Luke 12:28)

Philippians 4:19 "And my God will supply every need of yours according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

III. You need to fight worry because it makes us look just like the rest of the unbelieving world.

Matthew 6:31-32 "Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³² **For the Gentiles seek after all these things**, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all."

Worry is inconsistent with our faith and characteristic of unbelief.

If we think like the world, we'll worry like the world.
We can't reach unbelievers if we think and act just like them.

Matthew 6:33 "**But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness**, and all these things will be added to you."

If we're seeking God's Kingdom and trusting in Him,
we'll see the unique opportunities afforded us to reach people with
the hope, help, peace, and love that only comes through Jesus in the Gospel.

Questions for Personal Application and/or Community Group Discussion:

- (1) Pastor Peter said "We don't read our Bibles to see what God was like. We read our Bibles to see what God *is* like." Which of God's never-changing attributes brings you peace during times of trouble?
- (2) Why do you think we don't take worry as seriously as other sins?
- (3) Matthew 6:24 says, "No one can serve two masters...You cannot serve God and money." If not money, what potential "master" might God be calling to your mind that you can't serve in addition to Him? Fill in the blank below.
I cannot serve God and _____.
- (4) How might worry be hindering you from seeing opportunities to reach out to others?