



**Summer 2025**

**Character Counts**

**Sermon Title:** Don't Worry; Be Content

**To be used with Session 4:** Contentment

**The Point:** Be content in the power and provision of God

**Scripture:** Matthew 6:25-34

**Connection with the Study:** To complement the Bible study "Contentment," this sermon focuses on Jesus's teaching regarding God's provision. Both Paul and Jesus emphasized God's provision for His creation. In Matthew 6:25-34, Jesus calls us to seek God's kingdom while disregarding external circumstances. The emphasis is that God will provide regardless of what is happening around us; our happiness should never be dependent on the circumstances. Peace and provision come not from possessions but from trusting in God's sovereignty. This is a call for us to trust God completely that He will always provide for us the things we need. Worry accomplishes nothing and becomes one of the greatest enemies of contentment.

**Introduction:** In the early hours of March 14, 2025, the Western Hemisphere was treated to a celestial spectacle—a total lunar eclipse, often referred to as a "Blood Moon." During this event, the earth aligned perfectly between the sun and the moon, casting a shadow that gave the moon a striking reddish hue. Such astronomical phenomena remind us of the vastness and wonder of the universe, offering a moment of reflection on our place within it. Just as the moon's appearance changes due to the earth's shadow, our perspectives and understandings can shift based on new insights and experiences. Embracing these shifts can lead to greater contentment, as we learn to appreciate the beauty and lessons in both the predictable and unexpected events of life.

### **1. God provides for His creation. (Matt. 6:25-26)**

Jesus began by directing our attention to nature. He did this to beautifully illustrate God's care. The subject was the birds of the air and the point is the birds do not plant crops or store food, yet they never lack what they need because God provides for them. Birds do not suffer from anxiety or high blood pressure due to stress over their next meal. They just realize that their needs are being met. How much more will God provide for his children!

Discontentment often arises when we doubt God's provision. We look at what we lack instead of trusting in the One who sustains us. But Scripture reminds us, if God takes care of the smallest creatures, He will certainly take care of us. Our job is not to worry but to rest in His promise.

Contentment begins when we recognize that God, in His wisdom, has already provided everything we need for today. We may not always have everything we want, but we can trust that we will always have everything we need in Christ.

## **2. Worry accomplishes nothing. (Matt. 6:27-30)**

Jesus then asked a simple but profound question. “Can any of you add one moment to his life span by worrying?”

Worry is one of the greatest enemies of contentment. It robs us of peace and distracts us from God’s blessings. Worry accomplishes nothing. Jesus illustrated this with another example from nature: the lilies of the field. They do not labor or spin fabric, yet they are clothed in more splendor than Solomon himself (Matt. 6:28-30). If God takes care of the flowers, which are here today and gone tomorrow, how much more will He provide for us!

Discontentment often stems from a misplaced sense of control. We think that by worrying, planning, or working harder, we can secure our future. But Jesus reminds us that we are not in control — God is. Worrying about tomorrow does not change tomorrow, but it does rob us of joy today.

When we trust in God’s power over our lives, we can rest. We can echo the psalmist when he wrote, “The LORD is my shepherd; I have what I need” (Ps. 23:1). Contentment is not found in grasping for control but in surrendering to the sovereign hand of the Lord.

## **3. Seeking God first brings everything we need. (Matt. 6:31-34)**

Jesus concluded this passage by promising that, if we seek the kingdom of God first and the righteousness of God, all these other things will be added to us. There is no more powerful way for Jesus to finish a sermon on contentment.

Here is the key to true contentment: seeking God first. Discontentment comes when we put the wrong priorities at the center of our lives. These may include but are not limited to money, success, comfort, or security. But Jesus tells us to focus on one thing above all else: God’s kingdom.

When we live for God, trusting in His purposes and pursuing His righteousness, He provides everything we need. This doesn’t mean we will never face hardships, but it does mean that God will be faithful to sustain us. The world chases after wealth and security, but Jesus calls us to something greater — trusting that our Heavenly Father will provide for His children.

This is why Jesus told us to not be concerned about tomorrow because it will be anxious for itself (Matt. 6:34). Contentment is found in trusting that God has already taken care of our future. Instead of chasing after things, we chase after God. And in so doing, we receive the richest blessing of all: His presence, provision, and peace.

**Conclusion:** Contentment is not found in having more but in trusting more. Jesus calls us to a life free from worry and full of faith, knowing that our Heavenly Father will always provide. God will provide for His creation. If He feeds the birds, He will take care of us. Worry is futile and accomplishes nothing. We gain nothing by stressing over things we cannot control. When we prioritize God's kingdom, He takes care of the rest.

The question is, do we believe this? Do we trust that God is enough? May we choose today to rest in His power and provision, knowing that true contentment is found not in what we have but in who He is.

Let's live with confidence, knowing that our Heavenly Father is always faithful.

*Jeff Dabbs is Senior Pastor of Spring Creek Baptist Church in Rome, GA. He lives in Rockmart, Georgia with his wife Kristi. They have two children and two grandchildren.*