

The Sermon on the Mount
Do Not Worry, Matthew 6:25-34

Worry works...90% of what I worry about never happens.

First, we are not addressing a mental health issue of generalized anxiety. The text is very directed at material possessions and future plans: Food, clothing, shelter, and tomorrow.

Matthew 6:20 "Store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal."

As a church and as believers in covenant together, how do we store up treasures? Giving to the ministry of the church, sharing time and gifting to serve, giving to the missional tasks of God around the world. Caleb, GPHOO

Matthew 6:25 "For this reason I say to you, do not be worried about your life, as to what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?"

Matthew 6:20-25 "Store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal..." "For this reason..."

Natural concern, if I use my earthly resources to store up treasures in heaven, what will happen to me personally?

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Not an excuse to be foolish with our money...go to Vegas and put it all on red because God will provide

Knew a person in the 1990s who blew out their credit cards because they were convinced that Jesus would return and they wouldn't have to repay the cards

Not an excuse to be foolish with retirement and other savings

Proverbs 6:6-8 Go to the ant, O sluggard, observe her ways and be wise, which, having no chief, officer or ruler, prepares her food in the summer and gathers her provision in the harvest.

Proverbs 10:4-5 Poor is he who works with a negligent hand, but the hand of the diligent makes rich. He who gathers in summer is a son who acts wisely, but he who sleeps in harvest is a son who acts shamefully.

Not an excuse to be unwilling to work in order to provide for yourself and others

Ephesians 4:28 He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have something to share with one who has need.

II Thessalonians 3:10-12 For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either. For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread.

In the process of normal, daily life of work and spending, saving and giving, do not let anxiety dominate your thinking

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Argument from the lesser to the greater. Consider birds and flowers...God provides for them. “Are you not worth much more than they?”

Matthew 6:26-29 “Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they?”

Matthew 6:27 “And who of you by being worried can add a single hour to his life?”

Matthew 6:28-29 “And why are you worried about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin, yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these.”

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

Matthew 6:31-32 “Do not worry then, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear for clothing?’ For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.”

Connection to Matthew 6:7-8 and Matthew 6:11, much the way Matthew 6:12 on the topic of forgiveness finds explanation in Matthew 6:14-15

So now, Matthew 6:7-8 and Matthew 6:11 finds further explanation in Matthew 6:25-34

Matthew 6:7-8 “And when you are praying, do not use meaningless repetition as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words. So do not be like them; for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him.”

Matthew 6:11 “Give us this day our daily bread.”

Matthew 6:31-32 “Do not worry then, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear for clothing?’ For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.”

Matthew 6:33 “But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”

Matthew 6:34 “So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.”