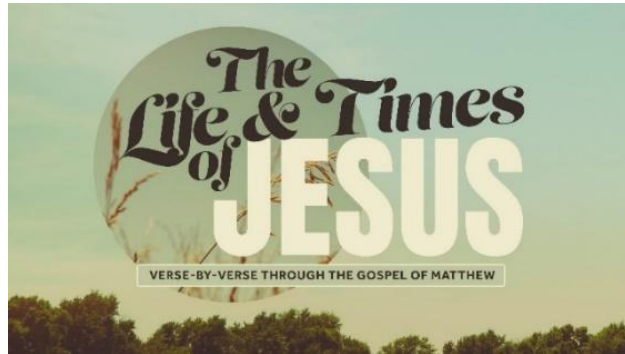


FELLOWSHIP NOTES ~ SUNDAY, October 26th, 2025



The World's Greatest Sermon - Part 10: "Kingdom Citizens Don't Worry"

Matthew 6:25-34

Joe was a worrier. One day Bill ran into Joe at work and for some reason he seemed happy and less burdened than he had ever seen him. So Bill asked him what was up. Joe said he had hired a guy to do all his worrying for him.

Bill was a bit skeptical, so he asked Joe how much he pays that guy to do all the worrying. Joe said a thousand bucks a week and Bill said, how can you afford that much money every week? And Joe shrugged his shoulders and said, "That's HIS worry!"

Wouldn't it be great if it were possible, to have someone do all the worrying for you and you wouldn't have to worry about a thing?!

As we step back into Jesus' Sermon on the Mount this morning, we're going to see that it actually IS possible for everyone who is part of Christ's kingdom by faith to have someone else do all the worrying for us, in fact, He wants to and He's willing to do that IF we'll let him.

It's kind of ironic that of all people on the globe who worry the most it's us – Americans. With all the advantages we have financially, materially, and politically, as Americans, we still worry as much if not more than those in other countries. And what is it that we worry about?

According to a recent poll, the top three issues Americans are worried about are...

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What Are Americans Worried About?

- 1. Government Corruption**
- 2. Cost of Living**
- 3. The Economy**

Now I'm sure there are lots of other things we tend to worry about, but these currently top the list. And when you start combining together these causes of worry, the results are dangerous and impactful.

Physically, worry can cause ulcers in the stomach, sap your vitality, cause stress, and take years off your life if its not dealt with. Worry incapacitates our ability to make decisions, handle life's problems and a host of other debilitating results that affect us emotionally, mentally and spiritually in addition to our physical health.

The truth, right now as I speak, is, a high percentage of us here have life situations going on – at home, at school, at work, you name it, that either are or they have the potential to cause a great deal of worry in your life.

Some very wise men have said some very wise things warning us about worry...

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“Worry affects the circulation, the heart, the glands, and the whole nervous system, and I’ve never met a man or knew a man to die of overwork, but I’ve sure known a lot who died of worry.”

~ Charles Mayo (The Mayo Clinic)

(Slide)

“Worry is interest paid on trouble before it’s due.”

“Worry is a thin stream of fear that trickles through the mind. If encouraged it will cut a channel so wide that all other thoughts will be drowned in it.”

“Worry is faith in the negative, trust in the unpleasant, assurance of disaster, and belief in defeat.”

“Worry is wasting today’s time to clutter up tomorrow’s opportunities with yesterdays’ troubles.”

Now we saw last Sunday in the previous passage as Jesus gave us His guidance on wealth management and he told us not to waste our lives storing up treasures on earth which are temporary, when we can store up treasure in heaven which will last for eternity.

He told us the key to doing this is twofold: we have to guard our heart against treasuring and ultimately loving what is temporal, AND we have to come to grips with the fact that there’s no middle ground...

We can only have one Lord who governs our lives – God or money, it can't be both, so again, we better choose wisely who or what we let dictate our lives to whom we give our allegiance because God is a really good master, but money is a slave trader who will use us up and spit us out.

So that is the context of this part of Jesus' sermon and it's important to remember this because verse 25 begins with the word, "therefore"... and always remember, that word is a connecting word, so whenever you see the word "therefore", we should ask ourselves, "What is that therefore, there for?"

Based on the guidance Jesus gave about money and possessions in verses 19-24, Jesus now goes to the topic of worry – why? Because money and worry always go together.

Remember, what are two of the top three things that Americans worry about? The cost of living and the economy, right? So when it comes to worry, financial matters are always at the top of the list.

Now it wasn't hard for me to come up with this topic or message title today, because three times in these 10 verses, Jesus says these words, "Don't worry", 3 times – in verse 25, verse 31, and verse 34. So let's say those two words together out loud: DON'T WORRY...

So let me ask you, What is it that Jesus DOESN'T want us to do??? (say it: WORRY!) Jesus is telling us that citizens of His kingdom don't worry.

Of all people, why should we be people who worry about anything when we have a God who made everything, owns everything, provides everything, and is coming back to take us home to heaven to give us everything for all eternity – Can I get an “Amen”?

Now the word “worry” means “to have a divided mind”. It refers to having a concern over the unknown – especially the future. Worry messes with your mind because it leads us to try to control something that we never have control over.

None of us can control the future, so if we worry about it, it sets up a division in our mind that is not attainable and is destructive.

The tense of the word, worry, here is also important. Look at it there again in verse 25...the tense of the verb here means “stop worrying”. Write that off to the side in your Bible. In other words, it means if you are in the habit of worrying...STOP WORRYING!

Look down at verse 31... “So don’t worry...”. Here the tense of the verb is different. Here it means, “Don’t start worrying.” In other words, if you’re not in the habit of worrying, don’t start now. Don’t fall into the trap of worrying.

So Jesus is teaching us that if we’re already are in the habit of worrying, to get out of the habit ASAP, and if we’re not in the habit, today would a terrible time to start – in fact any day would be a terrible time to start worrying.

Now Jesus gives us 3 reasons why we as kingdom citizens aren't to worry, and here's the first one...

Kingdom Citizens Don't Worry Because...

(Slide) 1. We have a faithful heavenly Father – Matt. 6:25-30 (READ vs. 25).

Jesus tells us that all the major concerns that make up our lives should not be things that we worry about. Things like where our next meal is going to come from or where will be find the proper clothes to wear.

Yes, these necessities are important, and yes they require our time and attention and resources, but in the end, they're not what's ultimately most important. What's most important is life itself.

Life itself is more important than the temporary things of this world and God our Father has no problem providing these necessities for us to make our lives complete.

To worry about the temporary needs of life is inconsistent with a kingdom citizen because we have a God who has promised to meet our needs and He's likewise able to keep that promise.

READ Matt. 6:26

Jesus turns to the animal kingdom to prove his point. Just imagine with me as Jesus is on the hillside preaching this sermon that sunny day in Galilee and a flock of birds flies over, right as He's making this point.

In Luke's record of Jesus' sermon, He records that Jesus actually got specific and said, "Consider the RAVENS". So a flock of ravens flies over and Jesus points up toward them, and says...

"Consider the ravens – they don't plant seeds, they don't harvest crops, they don't store any crops in the winter, and yet your heavenly Father makes sure they have plenty to eat. You don't see them flying with a backpack on their backs with food supplies ready to eat as soon as they land, do you?!"

No, they're not worried about where they're going to find lunch tomorrow or what they're going to eat next week. They fly around and land and God makes sure they have what they need every day.

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"All eyes look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time. You open up your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing."

Psalm 145:15-16

"He provides the animals with their food, and the young ravens, what they cry for."

Psalm 147:9

Now this doesn't mean that the birds and the animals don't have a part to play – they do. They have to search for their food, gather it, migrate toward it, care for their young, etc., but ultimately what they need comes from God.

Jesus' point to his listeners and to us is that if birds who have a brain the size of a pea and have but a very limited ability to provide for themselves, if they mean enough to God that he provides for them and none of them worry that they're not going to eat...

Then certainly we as human beings endowed with amazing abilities of creativity and resourcefulness shouldn't worry either because God will take care of us too. As Jesus says at the end of the verse (26), "Aren't you worth more than they?" And of course, the answer is a resounding, "Yes".

God is the one who gave each of us the greatest gift - life itself. And He's given us the gift of salvation through His Son Jesus, and brought us into His eternal kingdom, and he's provided for all our spiritual needs.

To also meet our physical needs is a small thing compared to all that God has already done for each and every one of us. It's irrational to worry about temporal needs when we have the heavenly Father that we have.

READ Matt. 6:27

Lots of people worry about their health and take great measures to prolong their life through every means invented by man. But worry never added a single second to the length of anyone's life. In fact it's just the opposite – excessive worry about our health can actually shorten one's life significantly!

READ Matt. 6:28-30.

This time Jesus turns to nature and again we can imagine this outdoor setting on the hillside that day that the fields around the area were covered in wildflowers and Jesus is waving his hand inviting people to look around and see a perfect example of God's faithfulness right there.

His point was that there's not a shred of clothes anywhere that can compare to the way God the Father adorns the flowers of the field and yet what are these flowers when compared to the incomparable worth of a human being made in the image of God that God has reclaimed and redeemed for His glory and kingdom?

What a faithful heavenly Father we have who is able and willing to meet our every need no matter what it might be because He loves us and that love is shown in His care for us, which is infinitely more than the care He shows for the flowers of the field which come and go so quickly.

Some people think that of God as being some kind of cosmic CEO who sits at the head of a table in a board room surrounded by the heavenly movers and shakers like Michael the Archangel and Gabriel and other top dogs and he has little to no connection or care for the common people of the world who he entrusts to the first-class angels who are waiting to earn their wings.

Of course nothing could be further from the truth, but lots of Christ-followers have a mixed-up, false understanding of their heavenly Father. They've been told lies from the enemy and what we need is a healthy dose of biblical truth about who our Father is and what He has done, is doing, and will do for us.

MY FATHER GOD (NOTES)

If you know Christ as your Savior this morning, that's who your Father God is, and we are citizens of His kingdom, so we don't worry because we have a faithful Father who loves and cares for us and meets our needs, so let that grow your faith this morning in Him.

Notice how Jesus concludes verse 30 – “you of little faith”. When we worry about things that are out of our control, when we worry that our Father is incapable or insufficient or too disinterested in us to meet our needs, We are demonstrating to him and to the world a lack of faith. If you feel that's where you are this morning, lacking faith in your heavenly Father, worried about things that have no control over, remember these encouraging words from Scripture...

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“Casting all your cares on him, because he cares for you.”

1 Peter 5:7

Kingdom Citizens Don't Worry Because...

(Slide) 2. We have a fervent faith – Matt. 6:31-32 (READ).

Again, Jesus introduces the importance of faith at the end of verse 31, then builds on that by saying basically, it's inconsistent with our faith to worry. Worry belongs to people who don't have God as their Father – that's who Jesus is referring to here when He says “the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things.”

Those who don't know the Lord have no clue what it means to have their needs met by our faithful heavenly Father. All they can DO is worry. Worry is a mark of the unredeemed, of those still living in spiritual darkness.

Unsaved people naturally worry, they seek contentment in food and clothing and the temporary pleasures of this world Jesus says. But that should not be so for those of us know Christ as Savior. It's illogical that we would worry when we are people of the faith, we are people of the kingdom.

We shouldn't pursue the temporary things of this world, but we should live for the eternal aspects of Christ's kingdom. Why? Because we have a faithful heavenly Father and because we're people of the faith – faith in God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ who knows what we need and has promised to meet our needs (end of vs. 32).

Don't you know this morning that your Father knows what you need?! If you believe that, say, "Amen." He does. And you can trust him to meet your needs. If you believe that, say, "Amen". He will!!!

Are you living your life like a son, like a daughter of the King – expecting God to meet your needs? Refusing to worry about your basic needs being met, OR always giving your time and attention to those things that are temporary and are fading away and will be gone forever?

Does your faith in the Lord guide your decisions, your priorities, your way of living? Do you have a fervent faith this morning that has grown and grown over time to the point that you trust the Lord and that trust has banished your worry?

Listen, the truth is, we all fight against worry! Worry crops up often and tempts us and it's easy for us to fall temporarily into the trap of worry. But when that happens, do you fight your way back out of that trap by your faith in your heavenly Father and the reminder of His promises to you?

Worry is a constant battle, but it shouldn't be a constant lifestyle. That's for those who don't know what it means to have the Lord as their Savior. So how do we win this constant battle against worry? Fortunately, Jesus didn't leave us hanging, he gives us the help and the hope we all need.

Kingdom Citizens Win Against Worry By...

(Slide) 1. Prioritizing the Kingdom of Christ and His Righteousness – Matt. 6:33 (READ)

I want to focus here in this verse on the promise Jesus makes to those of us who are part of his kingdom and who prioritize him in our lives: “all these things will be provided for you.” The question we should be asking is, “What are ‘all these things’?”

“These things” are the things he's talking about in verses 25-32 – food, drink, clothing – all the basics of life. And the things things Jesus mentions specifically here are representative of everything that we need in life.

When we prioritize Christ and His righteousness, Christ will make sure you have enough to eat, enough to sustain you, the right clothes to wear, the right place to live, and everything you need.

These are the issues of life that we tend to worry about, and Jesus is saying we don't have to worry about these important needs when we are citizens of His kingdom and we're living with priorities that honor Him.

And what does that mean, how do we do that? It means taking spiritual matters seriously. It's what Paul said to the Colossians, "Set your affections on things in heaven and not things on the earth."

Set your priorities with Christ in the center of everything in your life – because He IS your life! It means loving him more than anything else that this world wants you to love.

It means Christ gets first dibs on everything – your time, your treasure, your passions, your abilities – everything. It means seeing yourself as Christ's ambassador and caring about spiritually lost people enough to share the gospel.

It means pouring your time and resources into those ministries and missionaries that are building the kingdom and advancing the gospel. It means being faithful to Christ every day and walking with Him and seeking to glorify him in all we do – like our theme verse says.

When we prioritize Christ and His kingdom and His righteousness, Christ assures us He will meet our every need, therefore, we have no need to worry.

And I would add that when we live this way, we won't worry because the Lord will give us the peace of knowing that He's got everything covered. We're in good hands with Jesus. (Good hands with All State).

Is this how you're prioritizing your life, and that of your family? If you so, then you're in good hands, you have no reason to worry about anything. If not, then start today. Make Christ the center of your life – everything in your life – and watch Him meet your every need. He's guaranteed He'll do that for you.

Kingdom Citizens Win Against Worry By...

(Slide) 2. Keeping our Focus on Jesus Today – Matt. 6:34 (READ)

Jesus advises us not to look ahead and wonder how our needs are going to met tomorrow. Don't worry about tomorrow. When we worry about tomorrow, we lose focus today.

Our job is to keep our eyes on Jesus every day, but if we're worrying about tomorrow, our focus gets fuzzy and our worry about tomorrow's needs steals our joy today, robs us of today's peace, cripples today's faith, and wreck's today's testimony to those around us that our God is faithful.

This is why worry is so grievous to the Lord. Because worry is a self-destructive force and it hurts the Lord to see His children doing damage to themselves.

On top of that, it offends the Lord that we would think so little of him that He is either unwilling or unable to meet our needs – when the truth of the matter is just the opposite, and He has given us His guarantee about this.

And you know what? Worry is also likewise a tool of the enemy. If he can tempt us to worry instead of focus on the Lord, then he knows we'll be stressed, defeated and fearful, and our testimony for Christ will be neutralized –

Who would want our God if He can't even take care of us. When we worry we play right into the hands of Satan and he loves every minute of it!!!

So Christ says, “don't worry about future needs. I've got you for today and I'll have you for tomorrow, so focus on me now, take care of my business today and I'll take care of yours today AND tomorrow.”

Finally,

Kingdom Citizens Win Against Worry By...

(Slide) 3. Praying constantly – 1 Thess. 5:17; Philippians 4:6-7

Over the past 40 days we'll been challenged to learn how to pray without ceasing. This is another reason why it's incumbent upon us to learn to pray constantly.

Satan is always dangling worry in front of our minds and our hearts, and we constantly need the help of the Lord to say NO to his temptation and to trust the Lord instead of worrying.

A healthy prayer life, in constant communication and dependence on God, is a powerful deterrent to worry. Turn over to Philippians 4. READ Phil. 4:6-7 (UNDERLINE THESE VERSES IN YOUR BIBLE).

So there's a seven word phrase I want you to fill out on your notes and get in your mind and heart as a take-away to our study today...

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DON'T WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING, PRAY ABOUT EVERYTHING!

SAY THIS WITH ME OUT LOUD. Turn to your neighbor and say, "Don't worry, just pray."

Let me close with this: God says those who know him and are part of his kingdom literally have nothing to worry about. But if you don't know Christ as your Savior, you literally have everything to worry about! God owes you nothing because you refuse to put your faith in His Son and believe in Him.

If that rattles you a bit, it should, but you don't have to leave here feeling that way. You can have Christ as your Savior this morning and have eternal life and become part of His kingdom and live your entire life under His promise to meet your every need. Why not turn to Christ today?