

SEEKING THE KINGDOM OF GOD FREES
YOU FROM WORRY!
MATTHEW CH6:25-34

ILLUSTRATION

Take the globe in as an illustration, along with ice cream and gravy. What is the “therefore” there for? What does Jesus want His disciples and us to have in mind as He continues His teaching in the next few verses? As you think back to verses 19-24, it should leave the followers of Jesus, with one question, “Who will I serve, God or Money?” Which will be my master?

Three times Jesus uses the phrase “Do not worry” (v25, v31 + v34)! What does it mean to worry? The dictionary says that to worry is “A state of uneasiness about what may happen”. Jesus has something to say to those who choose to have God as their master and not be a slave to money!

FATHER

The word “Father” appears in v26, v30, v32, + v33. Let's have a look at these verses. What do these verses tell us about the “Father”, His nature, His concern, His value, His provision?

Our Father provides for all His creation! v26

Our Father values us more than creation! v30

Our Father knows what we need! v32

Our Father knows what is best for us, His will and His righteousness! V33

Followers of Jesus will worry, but worrying and the Christian are incompatible (not able to exist together in harmony)! Like ice-cream and gravy, they simply don't go together!

Jesus wants His followers not to worry!

FAITH

So why do followers of Jesus worry? What is at the core of our worrying? Isn't it totally natural for us to worry? Aren't we allowed as Christians to worry? Is it sinful if we worry?

Look at what Jesus says at the end of v30. “O you of little faith”. Worrying, Jesus says is a faith issue. You could say that little faith creates big worry! Jesus wants His followers to make the link between worrying and faith.

So Jesus gives us two vital pieces of evidence in nature to encourage us to grow

in our faith and combat the sin of worrying!

V26 – Fearnly, this one is for you. I have found you a verse that is for “twitchers”! Bird watchers! Look, Jesus says, at the birds, study them and learn. Martin Luther says “You see, he (God) is making the birds our schoolmasters and teachers. It is a great and abiding disgrace to us that in the Gospel a helpless sparrow should become a theologian and a preacher to the wisest of men Whenever you listen to a nightingale, therefore, you are listening to an excellent preacher

Not just look, but see.

V28 – See, how the lilies of the field grow yet not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these. Spurgeon says “Lovely lilies, how you rebuke our foolish nervousness”.

Not just look and see but seek.

V33 – Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness. We grow in faith as we seek the right things, God, His will, His righteousness! How does the Lord's prayer start in Ch6:9? By seeking God!

People who worry think untheologically about life. They don't involve God and His Word. What is “theology” it is the truth about God and His nature as revealed by the Bible. We don't think biblically when it comes to the worrying about life!

FREE

What happens when we think Biblically about life? We see the truth of God, the truth of God's nature and the truth of God's Word and we are compelled not to worry about life! Why, because we see differently and are impacted differently!!!!

Jesus wants His followers to be free from worry because of how great the Father is!

V33 – Seeking the right things frees us from worry. How can we seek rather than worry?

APPLICATION

What is causing you worry? What are the right things to seek, rather than worrying? How can you seek the right things?