

- I. Jesus *_commands_*: Do not *_worry_*
- A. When we *_worry_*, it reveals that our *_master_* is not *_God_*
- B. Don't *_worry_*: even about the "*_big_ _stuff_*"
- II. Our *_Father_* gave us the *_big_*, He will give us the *_little_*
- A. He *_gave_* us our *_lives_* and our *_bodies_*
- B. He will take *_care_* of *_both_*
- III. *_Contemplate_* our Father's *_ways_*
- A. *_Look_* at the *_birds_* of the *_air_*
- B. *_Consider_* the *_flowers_*
- IV. It's about *_faith_*
- A. *_Anxiety_* (worry) indicates "*_little_ _faith_*"
- B. *_Great_ _faith_* trusts God, it doesn't *_worry_*
1. **Absolute** authority of His word
 2. **Acceptance** of His ways
 3. **Humility** before Him
 4. **Answers** from the Father come through Jesus

Matt 27:5; Judges 7:17;
John 13:27; Matt 4:17-5:2;
Phil 4:6-7; Matt 6:19-24
Acts 10:34-36, 43-44;
Jer 17:9

Rom 8:32

James 1:16-17;
Acts 17:24-25;
Luke 12:48b;
Matt 25:14ff; II Cor 5:10;
I Cor 6:19-20; Rom 12:1-2;
John 10:10

John 5:19-20a

II Thess 3:10; Prov 6:6ff;
Matt 10:29-31

Matt 6:30; 8:24-26;
Matt 14:31; 16:8

Matt 8:5-10; 15:21-28;
Rom 1:21; John 14:6

Small Group Questions

“Anxiety as a ‘Buy Product’”

Text: Matt 6:25-30

Dave Bechtel

June 22, 2008

1. Did you understand, in the sermon, the example of the “style” of Bible reading sometimes called “open and point”? Can you think of another sequence (besides the one given as an illustration in the sermon) that would be “memorable” and an improper use of the Scripture? (one more example: 1. Rev. 13: 1 “And the dragon stood on the shore of the sea”, 2. Acts 10:13, “Then a voice told him, Get up Peter. Kill and eat.”)
2. What, in the context, does Jesus’ command not to worry connect with (what is the “therefore” there for)? What is the preceding subject? What master does Jesus connect worry with? (Bonus question: besides worry proving that our Master is not God, can you see in the previous verses what other indicator in our attitudes would reveal that Mammon is our real master?)
3. Can a believer have Jesus as Savior and yet have another master (e.g. mammon)?
4. What are the two specific areas about which Jesus commands His disciples not to worry?
5. How is Jesus argument about the Father’s care for us an illustration of the “from the big to the little” argument? Given this logic, about what on the “worry spectrum” should we be anxious?
6. Jesus commands us to look at the birds of the air as a basis for not worrying. If we study them, what will we learn about the Father? How is this an argument “from the little to the big”?
7. Have you considered other parts of God’s creation and learned something about His ways and His world (e.g. David and sheep, James and fish, Solomon and various animals)? If so, could you share that?
8. How are anxiety and faith connected? Why does Jesus label those who worry as people of “little faith”? Can a person be a believer in the Lord and still have “little faith”? What are some characteristics of little faith?
9. What are some characteristics of “great faith”? (see the two examples from Matthew) Is there a specific characteristic in which your faith needs to grow?

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