



Christian Life Fellowship

Becoming fully devoted followers of Christ



Seven Reasons Why We Need Not Worry

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Introduction:

So how are we doing? Is your trust and confidence in Almighty God growing? Are you finding yourself worrying less and focused more on today? Today we are going to cover two more reasons why not to worry. Next Sunday we will complete this series on seven reasons why we should not worry. We shouldn't worry because God is in control of the details of our lives. When we worry we focus on tomorrow and not today. Worry is more harmful than helpful. We don't have to worry because God doesn't ignore those who depend on Him.

When we allow ourselves to worry about anything big or small, it shows a lack of faith and understanding of God.

Matthew 6:31-32 - So don't worry about having enough food or drink or clothing. Why be like the pagans who are so deeply concerned about these things? Your heavenly Father already knows all your needs.

Worry shows a lack of faith and understanding of God. God is the creator. He is all powerful, all knowing, all present. Because of these characteristics about God, you and I don't have to worry.

I. God is all knowing.

Jeremiah 29:11- For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. Because He is all knowing, whatever happens to me, He is aware of it and has knowledge about it.

God knows when you are awake, when you are asleep, when you are working, relaxing, exercising

and on and on I could go. When you or I are sick, He knows about it. When you or I are well, He knows about it. When you or I are joyful He knows and when you are sad, He also knows about that also. His knowledge is incredible. Since He knows everything, there is nothing I do that escapes His knowledge. There is nothing I need that escapes His view. Just understanding His knowledge alone should help us not worry.

II. God is all present.

There is no place where you are that you are alone. Because God is everywhere present, we are never alone. When Daniel, who we talked about last week, was in the den of lions, he was not alone. God was with Him. When the three Hebrew men were thrown into the fiery furnace, they were not alone. God was with them. When Moses was on the back side of the desert before God used him to deliver the children of Israel from Egypt, he was not alone. God was with him. When Paul and Silas were imprisoned for preaching the gospel, they were not alone. God was with them. This is another aspect of God that should help us understand the futility of worry. God will never leave us or forsake us. We are not alone!

III. God is all powerful.

Of all the reasons why not to worry, perhaps this one is the greatest of all. Realize that God is so powerful that He speaks and things happen. When He made everything we see, He spoke it into existence. He said, "Let there be....." and it was. I can't fathom the power of His spoken word and yet everything around us except man was made and exists by His spoken word. We don't have the power to create but the words that we speak are very powerful.

His power is over all creation and the laws of nature. He can do anything including making the sun and time stand still, turning water into wine, making an axe head swim, rolling back the Red Sea and making dry ground to walk on. He can cause lions mouths to be shut even when they are hungry and can make water solid so one can walk on it. He can make walls fall down flat from a fortified city like Jericho and with five loaves and a few small fishes he can feed a multitude with plenty left over. Do I need to go on? If we understand who it is that we belong to and who it is that is in control, I do believe we would trust more and worry less.

Worry keeps us from real challenges God wants us to pursue. **Matthew 6:33- ...and he will give you all you need from day to day if you live for him and make the Kingdom of God your primary concern.**

We think at times the challenges that we face are personal issues and they are very real and they can be very challenging; such as personal losses, financial setbacks, illnesses and death. These things scream for our attention and focus and as a result we worry about such things. The things that we should be challenged by, the things that are eternal, the things of the kingdom that we should be focused on loses out.

The true challenge we face as followers of Jesus Christ is the challenge to live for Him and make the Kingdom of God our primary concern. The things of the kingdom are eternal, spiritual dynamics. Those things include God's will being done, God's kingdom coming in my life and your life and the lives of those we know; that people would find Christ as personal Savior from their sin and that through the church the darkness would be demolished and His light would shine brightly.

How do we make the kingdom of God our primary concern? We make it our primary concern through prayer. In the Lord's Prayer, Jesus taught us to pray that the Father's kingdom would come on earth even as it is in heaven and that God's will would be done. When we pray, we are conversing with God and we are bringing our will, our desires and our faith into alignment with what He wants, what He desires and what He sees is best. The trust issue and faith issue come into play. If we can bring ourselves to acknowledge that His will is best, His will is what we want, His will is what we live for and will submit to, then we are probably at the place of laying down our worry.

The kingdom of God is advanced by using the authority of Jesus' name. There is no name that is more powerful. Someone told me the name of a grandson last week. It was a strong name. A name is powerful. But there is no name that is more powerful than the name of Jesus. People are forgiven and saved from sin by the power of Jesus' name. By the power of Jesus' name people are set free from things that hold them down, defeat them and bring them fear. People are healed from sickness by the power of Jesus' name. People are inspired to believe in the impossible by the power of Jesus' name.

Philip. 2:9-11- Because of this, God raised him up to the heights of heaven and gave him a name that is above every other name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. The kingdom of God is advanced by influencing its surroundings. Jesus' teachings recorded in Matthew give us many examples of the influence of the kingdom on its surroundings. He spoke of seeds and how they are scattered and spring up and are fruitful. He spoke of leaven and leaven was yeast, something that would rise up. The yeast was hidden in three measures of flour and the end result was that even though it was small in comparison to the amount of flour around it, it completely affected the flour it was hidden in.

We don't always see the impact or importance of our faith and trusting God. We may not always see the **Conclusion:**

So this week the challenge to us is to not worry because when we do so it shows we have a lack of faith and understanding of God. We also should not worry because worry keeps us from the real challenges God wants us to pursue, mainly the things of the kingdom of God.

Make a difference this week. Choose to focus primarily on God and His kingdom rather than on things that are not significant. Acknowledge God's greatness in all things and utilize the authority of Jesus' name in advancing His kingdom.

results of our prayers but our life should bring the presence of Almighty God into the fabric of society. We are called to make a difference. We do influence those around us as we are mixed into the mainstream of life. If the yeast had the properties of the flour it was supposed to make rise, it would be no different and there would be no impact on the flour. It would not affect the flour in any way.

We are not to be like the world around us. We are different. This is the way that God uses His children to affect that culture around them. If we worry and fret and focus our mental, physical and spiritual energy in that way, we are no different from those around us and our influence will be minimal if anything at all. On the other hand, we will advance the kingdom and influence others when we focus on the challenges of the kingdom first and make those challenges our primary concern.