

Questions

1. What keeps you up at night? What causes you to feel stressed? Are there recurring fears that you experience?
2. Of the three categories of worry under point 1, is there one that is especially troubling for you? What did Jesus say about that area of worry?
3. What part has heaven played in the Sermon on the Mount up until the point of Jesus' command in Matthew 6:25?
4. In what way(s) does your anxiety reflect a lack of trust in God?
5. What we are ambitious for is what distracts us and makes us anxious. Do you agree or disagree? Why?
6. What are the two present tense imperative verbs (commands) in Matthew 6:25-34?
7. Read Matthew 6:31-33. How does Jesus give us an incentive to set aside our anxiety and to seek His kingdom?
8. What matter(s) will you ask God to graciously help you trust into His care?

The King's Manifesto

The Sermon on the Mount

And All These Things

Matthew 6:25-34

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October 17, 2021

In this passage, Jesus called the disciples of His kingdom to replace earthly anxiety with a determined seeking of God's kingdom and His righteousness.

Anxiety (in biblical language) = *distracting cares*

1. The Command – *Do not be anxious about your life.*

Jesus has at least three applications in mind:

Material security

Health issues

Matters of the future

2. The Basis for the Command – *Therefore...*

4. The Great Incentive for Jesus' Command (6:33 ...and all these things will be added to you.")

3. Two Illustrations that Support the Command

Birds

Flowers

When our anxiety becomes distracting and consuming and self-focused it registers a subtle message that we're not entirely sure God knows best, or His ways are all right.