Worry

- What do people worry about?
- What good does worry bring?
- What bad does worry bring?
- So why do we worry? How can we stop??

Displacing Worry Matthew 6:19-34

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The Sermon on the Mount Matthew 5-7

- Jesus is the Messiah, the King of a new Kingdom
- Orientation for people on the path to citizenship
 - "Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them." *5:1-2*
 - "When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law." 7:28-29

Matthew 6:19-34 19-21: Your heart experiences what your treasures experience
Natural and human decay OR Security and growth
22-23:
24:
25-30:
31-34:

Do not wear yourself out to get rich;
do not trust your own cleverness.

Cast but a glance at riches, and they are gone,
for they will surely sprout wings
and fly off to the sky like an eagle.

Proverbs 23:4-5

Matthew 6:19-34

19-21: Your heart experiences what your treasures experience

• Natural and human decay **OR** Security and growth

22-23: Your vision floods your life with what you focus on

Darkness and decay **OR** Light, health and wholeness

24: You can't focus on two masters

25-30:

31-34:



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25-30: God provides for His creation, especially people!

31-34:

"God's providence and care are so rich that he clothes the grass with wild flowers that are neither productive nor enduring."



Matthew 6:19-34

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- 25-30: God provides for His creation, especially people!
- 31-34: God knows His children's needs and He provides So seek His kingdom and ways, trusting Him

The Big Idea

God's overflowing, loving goodness that created the world continues to flow to all who trust and follow Him.

Everything else disappoints and destroys.

Implications

- Pursue God, His values, and His ways
 - Know and love God
 - challenges can teach us a great deal about Him
 - Know and love people
 - challenges are a rich time to love
 - In and through our physical world

Implications

- Pursue God, His values, and His ways
- Displace worry with joyful anticipation of God's goodness

How can a harmless gas kill you?

- By displacing (taking the place of) oxygen
 - "Asphyxiant gas": for example, helium or nitrogen
- How good friends, good hobbies, and good work can kill a marriage
 - (not to mention bad friends, bad hobbies, and bad work)
- Key: pursue and do the most valuable things first
- So: displace worry with focus on God's goodness
 - "Conquering worry" is self-defeating

Implications

- Pursue God, His values, and His ways
- Displace worry with joyful anticipation of God's goodness
 - Anticipate God's goodness in this life (like the grass)
 - Lord's Prayer Matthew 6:9-13
 - "Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven"
 - "Give us today our daily bread"
 - And even more in the new heavens and the new earth
 - Currency changeover: real but temporary value, changing into a permanent value → do the exchange!

Implications

- Pursue God, His values, and His ways
- Displace worry with joyful anticipation of God's goodness
- We will have troubles, yet...
 - His daily grace is sufficient for each day
 - Until we meet Him face to face

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

John 16:33

The Big Idea

God's overflowing, loving goodness that created the world continues to flow to all who trust and follow Him.

Everything else disappoints and destroys.

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:38-39

Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself.

Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Matthew 6:33-34

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