

MESSAGE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

NOVEMBER 7, 2021

Marty Grubbs, Senior Pastor



Senior Pastor Marty Grubbs continued our *Sermon on the Mount* series, addressing the topic of worry. He explained the difference between concern and worry.

Concern is a healthy state of being that can motivate change. Worry, on the other hand, can damage us and our lives. Worry puts our focus on the wrong things, underestimates our value, and has no benefits. With a reminder from 1 Peter 5:7, “Give all your worries to God for he cares about you,” Marty encouraged us that “Change is doable, worry is curable.” It just takes faith, usually an increase in faith, something God loves to give. Just ask him to increase your faith.

SCRIPTURE

MATTHEW 6:25-34 NASB

²⁵ For this reason I say to you, do not be worried about your life, as to what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they? ²⁷ And who of you by being worried can add a single hour to his life? ²⁸ And why are you worried about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin, ²⁹ yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, will He not much more clothe you? You of little faith! ³¹ Do not worry then, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear for clothing?’ ³² For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. ³⁴ “So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

MATTHEW 6:25-34 THE MESSAGE

²⁵⁻²⁶ “If you decide for God, living a life of God-worship, it follows that you don’t fuss about what’s on the table at mealtimes or whether the clothes in your closet are in fashion. There is far more to your life than the food you put in your stomach, more to your outer appearance than the clothes you hang on your body. Look at the birds, free and unfettered, not tied down to a job description, careless in the care of God. And you count far more to him than birds.

²⁷⁻²⁹ “Has anyone by fussing in front of the mirror ever gotten taller by so much as an inch? All this time and money wasted on fashion—do you think it makes that much difference? Instead of looking at the fashions, walk out into the fields and look at the wildflowers. They never primp or shop, but have you ever seen color and design quite like it? The ten best-dressed men and women in the country look shabby alongside them.

³⁰⁻³³ “If God gives such attention to the appearance of wildflowers—most of which are never even seen—don’t you think he’ll attend to you, take pride in you, do his best for you? What I’m trying to do here is to get you

to relax, to not be so preoccupied with getting, so you can respond to God's giving. People who don't know God and the way he works fuss over these things, but you know both God and how he works. Steep your life in God-reality, God-initiative, God-provisions. Don't worry about missing out. You'll find all your everyday human concerns will be met.

1 PETER 5:7

Give all your worries to God for he cares about you.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out to you from Marty's message?
2. Read Matthew 6:25-34 in a couple translations. What does Jesus say about worry?
Typically people worry about three things:
 - Protection
 - Provision
 - Perception
3. How can worry be damaging? (Physically, emotionally, spiritually, relationally)
4. What does Jesus mean when he says in verse 30, "You of little faith." See also Matthew 8:26, 16:8, and Luke 12:28.
5. Reread Matthew 6:30-34 and 1 Peter 5:7. What does Jesus say is the ultimate cure for worry or anxiety?
6. What are you worrying about in your current circumstances?
 - a. How do these things fit into the three categories?
 - b. What have been the results of your worry?
 - c. How can the promises in this passage turn worry to faith?
7. How can we pray for you?

PRAYER

Thank God for his faithfulness, and in recognizing that faithfulness, ask him to increase your faith. Pray that he will replace the worry in your life with trusting him in the three areas of protection, provision, and perception.