



Luke 12:22-28 – Warning Against Worry

²² And he said to his disciples, “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. ²³ For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. ²⁴ Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! ²⁵ And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁶ If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest? ²⁷ Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ²⁸ But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith!

Getting Started:

In yesterday’s sermon, Stephen mentioned that being laid off and living through his savings shaped his understanding of worry.

- Have you ever had a challenging financial time that shaped your understanding of worry?
- What was your emotional state like during that time?
- How can Jesus’ teaching on worry and the destructive nature of greed in Luke 12 help us shift our perspective on finances?
- How does the concept of “thinking intentionally about the future” help us live faithfully in the present?

Stephen listed the following statistics of U.S. workers surveyed:

- **70% feel stressed about personal finance (Gen Z is most stressed)**
- **68% say financial stress negatively impacts their overall mental health**

- **Spend at least 3 hours per week worrying about their personal finances at work**

- How does financial stress impact your daily life, and can you relate to the statistics shared about stress and mental health?
- Why do you think financial stress is so prevalent among people? Why do you think Gen Z might be more affected, according to the report?
- In what ways do financial worries affect your ability to focus on your faith or other priorities?

Luke 12:29-31- Wastefulness of Worry

²⁹ And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. ³⁰ For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. ³¹ Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you.

- What are the physical and spiritual consequences of chronic worry?
- In what ways does your faith and prayer life evolve during challenging times?
- In what ways can you trust in God's provision during those times?
- What does it mean to seek the kingdom of God first, and how can this be applied daily?

Luke 12:32-34 – Weakening of Worry

³² “Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

- How do we replace worry with generosity?
- How does relying on wealth and possessions for happiness and security distract us from eternal matters?
- How might living a lifestyle that accepts worry as normal prevent us from experiencing the future outcomes God desires for us?

Stephen mentioned three Points regarding Jesus' Teachings:

Warning against Worry (vv 22-28)

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more value are you than the birds! ²⁵ And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁶ If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest? ²⁷ Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ²⁸ But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith!

- Why does Jesus use examples like ravens and lilies to teach about God's care for His creation?
- What role does prayer and listening to God play in addressing worry?
- Why is worry considered a reflection of a faulty view of God?

Don't be so broke you can't pay attention (vv 29-31)

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- How does the concept of self-preservation hinder trust in God?
- How can believers ensure their treasures align with God's priorities?
- How can we shift our focus away from worldly concerns?
- How can trusting that "your Father knows that you need them" transform the way we approach worries about necessities?
- Why do you think Jesus contrasts the behavior of "all the nations of the world" with the calling of His followers in this passage?

Trust in God's Provision Builds Generosity (vv 32-34)

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Stephen mentioned that Jesus was interruptible. He was interrupted by little children. He was interrupted by blind people. He was interrupted by a woman at the well. He was interrupted by a woman who had a bleeding condition, and on and on.

- Why was Jesus interruptible? What mattered to him?
- What would happen if we sought the kingdom of God first and give every day to him?
- What are you afraid of losing?
- What are you trying to hide?
- What are you trying to prove and to whom?

When I have nothing to lose, nothing to hide, and nothing to prove, I am able to intentionally think about the future as God wants me to and live faithfully in the present.