

Sermon Study

July 21, 2019

Contentment
Mathew 6:25-34

vision

Eastview
Christian
Church is a
fearless church
of Christ
followers whose
ridiculous love
and dangerous
witness are
irresistible.



AUTHOR'S NOTES (summary of key points for this study)

According to John Stott in his commentary *The Message of the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7)*, “In the end, just as there are two kinds of piety, the self-centered and the God-centered, so there are only two kinds of ambition: one can be ambitious for oneself or for God. There is no third alternative.” “Ambitions for God, however, if they are to be worthy, can never be modest.”

Gather (your group getting to know each other)

What is your favorite flower or bird?

When it comes to clothes what matters the most to you (comfort, fit, style, price, or something else)? Why?

Go (your group on mission)

Read Matthew 10:16-20 for another major area where God handles anxiety. Discuss how the Spirit speaking through you enables you to be a bold ambassador for the Gospel of Jesus.

Grow (your group growing as Christ-followers)

Key Word: “Seek”- zeteo- to seek as in order to find, particularly here as in worship.

Discussion

1. Read Matthew 6:25-34 and 6:19-24.
2. Matthew 6:25 begins with “Therefore.” What is the “therefore” there for?
3. How many times are the listeners told “do not worry” or “do not be anxious”? How does your choice of treasure, sight and master affect your attitude toward life?
4. What does it mean to not be anxious about your life?
5. What comparisons do you need to remember to defeat the anxieties about having enough to wear, drink or eat? Why are these such great comparisons?
6. Why is becoming engrossed in material comforts a false pre-occupation? But how does the world encourage it?
7. How is worry/anxiety over material comforts incompatible to faith? Read also Colossians 1:17.

8. Does this passage mean that Christ followers are not to work, are not to take care of others or not to face any trouble? Why or why not?

9. What does it mean to seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness? In what ways have you first sought the kingdom of God and His righteousness?

10. What does I Peter 5:7 tell us to do to remove anxiety and how does it coordinate with the comparisons in these verses?

11. Jesus first said “do not be anxious about your life” and then He concluded by stating not to be anxious about tomorrow. Why do you think he rephrased it in this fashion?

12. What is the relationship about the one positive command (“Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness”) and the repeated negative commands (“Do not be anxious”)?

13. Are you more likely to have anxiety if you are a “control freak”? Why or why not?

Give (your group serving each other)

Recount all the negative consequences (see Proverbs 12:25) you have experienced in being anxious. Read Philippians 4:6 and pray for each other so that God can remove anxieties.