

The Sermon on the Mount 11 – Don't Be Anxious

Matthew 6:25-34

Rabbinical Teaching Technique – Asking Questions!

“Therefore” – a term of conclusion

Jesus asks 5 questions...

1. What is the value of your life?

6:25 “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?”

Psalm 8:4-8

Ephesians 2:10

2. Is man of more value than all the other animals?

6:26 Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?”

Psalm 19:1-3

Ps. 147:8-9

3. Can you make more time?

6:27 And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?”

Ephesians 5:16-17

(over)

4. Why are you anxious about your attire?

5. Will He not clothe you?

6:28-30 And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, 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. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

6:31-32 Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.

Central point of the entire sermon—Seek first the kingdom:

6:33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

1. Detach us from the world meeting our needs
2. Shift to dependence upon God the Father for our every need.
3. Seek the kingdom first and depend upon the Father for everything.

Philippians 4:11-14

6:34 “Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.”

Worry is the enemy of Faith

Phil 4:4-7

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Questions for next week’s study on “judging others”:

1. How does this passage connect with earlier passages concerning showing mercy, loving our enemies, etc.?
2. What are some of the root causes of our tendency to judge others?
3. It’s been said that we should be “easy on others and hard on ourselves”; why do we so often do exactly the opposite?
4. What are some reasons it might be wise to refrain from judging another until we more fully understand them and their situation?
5. How do we respond to the feeling that others are judging us? Is that response healthy?
6. Is judging ever called for? Does God ever instruct us to judge in any way?