
Digging Deeper and Rising Higher

How are worry and diligence different? What does worry say about us?

Luke 12:34 indicates that, if our “treasure” is earthly, our “heart” will be plagued with worry. What then is the way to overwhelm worry?

Some Thoughts to Take With You

Most of us think of an idol as a statue of wood, stone, or metal worshipped by pagan people. But the concept of idolatry is much broader and far more personal than that. An idol is anything apart from God that we depend on to be happy, fulfilled, or secure. In biblical terms, it is something other than God that we set our heart on, that motivates us, that masters and rules us, or that we trust, fear, or serve. In short, it is something we love and pursue more than God.

Ken Sande

“I do not believe one can settle how much we ought to give. I am afraid the only safe rule is to give more than we can spare. In other words, if our expenditure on comforts, luxuries, amusements, etc., is up to the standard common among those with the same income as our own, we are probably giving away too little. If our charities do not at all pinch or hamper us, I should say they are too small. There ought to be things we should like to do and cannot do because our charitable expenditure excludes them. . . For many of us the great obstacle to charity lies not in our luxurious living or desire for more money, but in our fear - fear of insecurity. This must often be recognized as a temptation.

C.S Lewis

Our God has boundless resources. The only limit is in us. Our asking, our thinking, our praying are too small. Our expectations are too limited.

A. B. Simpson

Living for others, commitment to God’s redeeming purposes, is a means of grace. We give because of our faith, and it deepens as we give. If we permit ourselves and our people to give casually, we are really teaching contempt.

Richard S. Emrich

Missional Stewardship #2: Overwhelming Worry

Luke 12:22-34

Introduction: Jesus was clear: Beware of greed in all of its forms! One of the forms greed takes is worry. A basic ingredient in the greedy life is the worrisome question: will there be enough for me? The answer to worry is to overwhelm it with contentment, trusting in the presence and promises of our loving heavenly Father.

Jesus’ Command: Do not worry

Luke 12:22-23, 29

How worry works

How worry kills

Jesus’ Illustrations: Look around you

Luke 12:24,27,28

Ravens, lilies, and grass: worry isn’t necessary

You and me: worry doesn’t work

Jesus’ Confrontation: What worry says about you

Luke 12:28, 30

Little faith

Lost opportunity

Ignored relationship

Overwhelming Worry: Your treasure & your heart

Luke 12:31-34

The treasure principle: as the treasure, so the heart

Make God’s Kingdom the priority

Invest generously in eternity

What do we do with all this?

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KIDS NOTES

Overwhelming Worry

Questions

Answer the following questions. The answers are on the back.

- Worry is:
 - fretting about things we can't do anything about.
 - anxiety that comes from forgetting God.
 - an unwillingness to rest in the care of God.
 - all of the above.
- Jesus showed that worry doesn't work by asking:
 - if worrying could add any days to your life.
 - if worrying could make you hit a home run.
 - if worrying could bring you an A on the test.
 - all of the above.
- The solution to a heart of worry is:
 - seek God's kingdom as the priority of life.
 - rest in the presence and promise of your heavenly Father.
 - invest your time, money, and skills in God's kingdom work.
 - all of the above.

For Family Discussion: What are some of the things you worry about as a family? How can trust in God help?

Space to Doodle

Did You Hear It?

Mark the times you hear these key words:

	TOTAL
JESUS _____	_____
WORRY _____	_____
CONTENTMENT _____	_____
GENEROSITY _____	_____
TREASURE _____	_____
HEART _____	_____

Word Search

Find the following words in the scramble below. Letters are sometimes used twice, and words may go around corners.

JESUS WORRY CONTENTMENT GENEROSITY TREASURE HEART
 SIN FAITH TRUST CARE COMPREHENSIVE RAVENS LILIES GRASS
 FURNACE VALUE BARNS CHARITY GIVE HOARDE JUDGMENT
 BARNS FATHER KINGDOM SOLOMON FLOCK AFRAID SECURITY

F U R N A C E Y I S C F N X C T S
 A C P T C R T M O D O C B I C N S
 B F H A S I G L N R M X K O S E A
 O A R A R U O C E S P R N Z E M R
 S E R U R M R H R X R T O G D G G
 J E C N O I T T S N E V A R R D B
 F E I N S A T P O N H H F G A U Q
 S R S L F E Q Y T F E W L J O J Y
 S R F U I T R M H A N O O K H I G
 E V I G S L E U R W S R C I M F L
 V A L U E N D T S K I R K N H V E
 W L Y I T J O F Z A V Y F G W Y C
 D Q I Z A F R A I D E U E D S F V
 Y T I S O R E N E G R R J O C E Y
 H T I A F A Z G V F C Y T M D O O