



Grow. Pray. Serve.

February 26, 2017

The Trouble with Trouble

1. People equate worrying with caring. When our worry over a problem isn't helping to solve the problem, it might be time to detach.
 - a. Melody Beattie, *The Language of Letting Go*: reacting/controlling/worrying doesn't help.
 - b. From a place of peace and centering will emerge an answer, a solution.
2. We will experience trouble. So what do we do with it?
 - a. "Don't worry like the unbelievers do"
 - b. look to the past faithfulness of God
3. King Jehoshaphat (2 Chronicles 20)
 - a. Devout man of God
 - b. Greatest crisis threatened to destroy all of Judah – three armies conspired to invade and overthrow.
 - c. Jehoshaphat called all people together to pray and fast. "We do not know what to do, God, but our eyes are upon you."
 - d. He took action, knowing God would act through him and with him.
 - e. He gave thanks to God.
4. True Peace comes from God not things
 - a. Culture says happiness is money and financial success and things money can buy. Jesus says, you can't serve two masters.
 - b. We experience joy not in our current circumstances but in our everlasting relationship with the One who seeks our whole heart, mind, strength.
5. Humans cannot escape sorrow, loss, and death
 - a. People are born for trouble just as surely as sparks from a fire float upwards (Job 5:7).
 - b. Letter from Paul to the Philippians. Don't worry about anything, instead pray about everything.
 - c. Philippians is packed full of Paul's secret to a worry-free life. Read it!
 - d. Your life is in the hands of a loving God who holds the whole world in his hands.

Today's Scripture Reading

Matthew 6:24-34 New Living Translation (NLT)

²⁴ “No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and be enslaved to money.

²⁵ “That is why I tell you not to worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food and drink, or enough clothes to wear. Isn't life more than food, and your body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds. They don't plant or harvest or store food in barns, for your heavenly Father feeds them. And aren't you far more valuable to him than they are? ²⁷ Can all your worries add a single moment to your life?

²⁸ “And why worry about your clothing? Look at the lilies of the field and how they grow. They don't work or make their clothing, ²⁹ yet Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are. ³⁰ And if God cares so wonderfully for wildflowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you. Why do you have so little faith?

³¹ “So don't worry about these things, saying, ‘What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?’ ³² These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. ³³ Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.

³⁴ “So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today's trouble is enough for today.



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