

The WayPoint: The Burden Of Worry Robs Me Of The Blessing Of God's Glory

Essential Verse: And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. Hebrews 11:6

Opening Prayer: Use this prayer or open with a prayer of your own.

Lord, we love You, and we thank You for this group You have brought together. Help each of us to grow in our relationship with You and with one another. We ask You to guide our time together and to help us see our need for Jesus every day. Amen.

Get Conversation Started:

Share a story where God provided for you in a way you did not expect.

Defining Terms:

Worry - Excessive thoughts or anxieties of a current or future event and its outcome. Usually self-inflicted. Uneasiness and feelings of uncertainty, agitation, dread, or fear.

Faith - Confidence and complete trust in a person or thing. Confidence, acceptance, and trust in God and His Word.

Bible Study Focus:

Focus on the following passages from the Reading Plan. Ask for volunteers to read the passages, while the rest of the group follows along. Then, discuss the biblical truths below.

Read Matthew 6:25-34 Jesus Teaches About Worry

It is in our *human* nature to be concerned with or worry about everyday situations in our world and lives.

In verses 25-34, How many times does Jesus say "do not worry", and why? What examples does Jesus give to show that worrying is a waste of time and energy?

In verse 33, How does "seek[ing] first the kingdom of God and His righteousness" eliminate our "need" for worry and anxiety?

Read Psalms 23:1-6 Follow God And Obey His Commands

God cares for us, the same way the shepherd David cared for his sheep.

In verses 1-6, What was required of David's sheep to receive their daily needs and protection?

When we follow after Jesus, our Good Shepherd, what are some of the blessings He richly bestows upon our life?

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Read Philippians 4:6-7

In verse 6, We are commanded not to be anxious, but to do what? In what manner are we to present our requests to God?

How does worry stand in opposition to faith, and how do "prayer and supplication with thanksgiving" combat anxiety?

What are some worries you are carrying that need to be surrendered to God? Are you willing to let go of them and to trust God for help?

Your Concerns:

What are your biggest concerns for the week ahead?

God Moments:

Where have you seen God at work in, through, or around you in the previous week?

Prayer:

Give thanks and lift up the concerns shared, and ask God to guide us to love and serve Him and others, so that He may be praised in all things.