

Study Guide Back to the Future 10-7-2018

Key Scriptures: 5 SC's - "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble." Matthew 6:34

- Philippians 3:13-14 "Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."
- Hebrews 12:15 "...looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled."
- James 1:23-25 "For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does."

Start Talking:

- Do you know of someone who seems stuck in the past? How does this condition of the heart and mind effect their life?
- Pastor Bobby said, "We've allowed the pain of past sorrow to rob us of the joy of tomorrow." Is there a pain from your past that you think about too often?
- What is the difference between worrying about something that hasn't happened yet, and planning for it without worrying? Do you sometimes slip into worrying before you even know it?
- List a few regrets that you have personally. What have you learned to keep from regretting the same things again?

Start Thinking:

- What makes someone consider themselves a "victim", often refusing to admit that they actually made a mistake? How can the truth set this person free?

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- Think about Adam and Eve's responses when God caught them in the original sin. Have you ever blamed someone for tempting you when you could have just refused to fall for it? Why do we try to dodge our responsibility when it comes to our own mistakes?

Start Sharing:

- How difficult is to it tell someone the truth about something that they did wrong without seeming to condemn them? Discuss.
- Read Philippians 6:13-14. Since we can't change the past, what are some of the reasons people spend so much time thinking about it? Share.
- Pastor Bobby said, "Victims feel as if they have no choices in life. Life is something that happens to them, and whatever comes their way is their lot." Have you ever been in a close personal relationship with a "victim"? How did you deal with their stagnation and inaction? Share.

Start Praying:

- "Lord, help me to transform my mind away from the things in the past that can't be changed, and onwards to Your will for my life. I want to be honest in the inner most parts and transparent before You and to myself. Help me. I ask in the Name of Jesus. Amen."

Start Doing:

- Read James 1:23-25. Do you spend more time and energy inspecting yourself or more energy inspecting someone else? Are you willing to honestly look in the mirror more often to examine your own heart?
- Do you need to deal with either "regret" or "not yet" in your life right now? Make a list of steps to destroy these distractions to the peace and happiness that God wants for you.
- "This is the day that the Lord has made!" Are you willing to start each day with rejoicing and being glad in it?