



Putting God First in Uncertainty: Trusting Through Life's Challenges

Dec 28, 2025

As we stand on the threshold of a new year, many of us carry the weight of uncertainty—job losses, grief, illness, and family struggles that make the future feel daunting. This message invites us to shift our perspective from panic to trust, drawing wisdom from Matthew 6 where Jesus urges us not to worry, and Proverbs 3:5-6 which calls us to trust God with all our hearts rather than lean on our own understanding. The core insight here is revolutionary: before we set goals or make resolutions, we must first establish our identity in Christ. Ephesians 2:10 reminds us that we are God's masterpiece, created anew in Christ Jesus. This means we don't strive to please God from a place of inadequacy or disappointment, but from the secure foundation that we are already enough in His eyes. The call to 'be still' from Psalm 46 and Jesus's invitation to find rest in Matthew 11:28 challenge our cultural addiction to productivity and worry. When we look to our Savior before we look to our situation—keeping our eyes on Jesus as Hebrews 12 instructs—we discover that our big problems are held by a big God. The practical application is profound: instead of helping God solve our problems by worrying about them, we're invited to place them in hands capable of carrying what we cannot. This isn't about ignoring reality but about recognizing that the God who cares for birds and fish cares infinitely more for us, and He is present in every emergency room, layoff meeting, and moment of grief we face.

01. How does understanding your identity as God's masterpiece change the way you approach setting goals or making New Year's resolutions?
03. What does it practically look like to 'keep your eyes on Jesus' when you're facing uncertainty or crisis in your daily life?
05. The sermon mentions that God sometimes lets us sit in discomfort. What might be the purpose or benefit of those uncomfortable waiting periods?
07. What is the difference between being delusional about problems and truly trusting that God will take care of your needs?
09. What practical steps can you take this week to place your problems in God's hands rather than carrying them yourself through worry?

02. In what areas of your life do you find it most difficult to trust God rather than rely on your own understanding, and why?
04. How can worry sometimes become a false sense of control, and what would it take for you to release that control to God?
06. When facing difficulties, do you tend to look first at your situation or at your Savior, and how might changing that order impact your response?
08. How does knowing that 'the Lord is close to the brokenhearted' change your perspective on grief and loss in your own life or the lives of others?
10. How might our church community better support one another through seasons of uncertainty, job loss, grief, and other challenges?

Remember...

“When we're not willing to trust in God, we're saying either that he's incapable of helping or he's uninterested. And neither of those things is true.”