

## Announcements

We are meeting at East Cobb Middle School at 10am. The address is 825 Terrell Mill Rd, Marietta, GA 30067. We hope to see you there!

We need your help in Image Kids and First Impressions. You can sign up to serve at [imageatl.com/serve](http://imageatl.com/serve).

## Prayer Suggestions

### Uyghur Genocide (pronounced wee-gur)

Background: The Uyghur people are the largest minority ethnic group in China. They are a ethnically & culturally Turkish, and most practice Islam. The Chinese government is currently detaining Uyghurs against their will in various “re-education” camps. Many are being used as forced labor, and there is evidence that the Uyghur people are being forcibly sterilised, tortured, and sexually abused. Human rights groups estimate more than 1 million Uyghur people have been detained by China. China has been accused of committing crimes against humanity and carrying out a genocide of this people group.

Pray for the Uyghur people to come to know Christ. Pray for their safety. Pray that China will stop this genocide. Pray that the camps will be closed. Pray for the Chinese government to know Christ, and as a result see these actions as evil. Pray for religious freedom around the world, that we all may practice our faith without repercussion or persecution.

Joshua Project Unreached Peoples: <https://joshuaproject.net/pray/unreachedoftheday>

## Family Time

**Family Time** is an intentional space where we live out the model we see in Acts 2:42. We want to be devoted to the Word together, break bread, fellowship, and pray. It's also a place where we practice hospitality. We want this time to foster both spiritual and relational growth moving the group from acquaintances and friends to family. Family Time begins with conversations around a meal, followed by a discussion about Sunday's sermon.

### Sermon Discussion (30-40 min)

**Title:** A Worry Free Life

**Series:** Inverted Kingdom

**Scripture:** Luke 12:22-34

### **Other Scripture/Cross References**

Mentioned in the sermon:

Ravens as unclean animals is found in Leviticus 11:13-19

Cross References/Other Pertinent Verses

Psalm 46:10 (NASB) -- Cease striving and know that I am God.

Parable of Jesus calming the storm -- Matt 8:23-27; Mark 35-41; Luke 8:22-25

## Main Points

1. When our trust is in the wrong place, and when we treasure the wrong things in this life, it will lead us to a place of worry and anxiety.  
When we experience worry that's tied to anything that fuels earthly treasure that feeds our security, two things are happening. Our trust is in the wrong place, and we are treasuring the wrong things.
2. It's not that we shouldn't care about things [such as food or clothing or security], but that we shouldn't worry about them. They are not the **essence** of life, but simply the **elements** of life.
3. Worry is a faith problem
4. Your trust can't be contingent on the outcome, but must be contingent on Christ.
5. Security doesn't come from what we can acquire, but from who has acquired us.
6. We cannot experience the blessing of verses 22-30 if we're not embracing verse 31
7. When our trust is in the right place, and when we treasure the right thing, it will lead us to a life that is free of worry and anxiety.

Other Points:

Ravens were considered unclean, and Jesus makes a point to say these birds don't sow or reap, but God still provides for them. They are solely reliant on God's care to sustain them.

When you are tempted to worry, take the effort you spend on worrying and place that effort into trusting God.

## Quotes

We are separated from God's Kingdom, and Jesus came to give us access in the future (we will have access to God forever one day) and right now (we are to live as citizens of God's Kingdom now)

Jesus shows us how to live as citizens of God's Kingdom

The world says build your own kingdom, Jesus says the opposite.

We often look to earthly things/treasure as the means to get the security and comfort we're looking for, but inevitably we encounter setbacks, failures, and let-downs along the way...And what do we do? We worry!

When we worry, we're functionally assuming that God is not in control.

## Questions

1. What challenged you? What were your takeaways? What encouraged or convicted you?
2. What questions do you have?
3. How do you experience worry? What are the circumstances that most often cause worry in your life?
4. What is your greatest worry right now?

- a. What does your greatest worry reveal about what you believe about God?
  - b. Are there lies you are believing about God?
  - c. What is the truth that counters those lies? (If possible, name actual Scripture passages)
5. What's your greatest treasure right now?
- a. What does your greatest treasure reveal about what you believe about God?
  - b. Are there lies you are believing about God?
  - c. What is the truth that counters those lies? (If possible, name actual Scripture passages)

## Points of Theology and Useful Definitions

In the Parable of the Rich Man we talked about last week, Jesus says “Watch out and be on guard against all greed, because one’s **life** is not in his possessions” (12:14), In 12:20, “But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your **life** is demanded of you. And the things you have prepared -- whose will they be?’” In our passage from Sunday, Jesus uses the same word for **life** twice (12:22, 12:23).

This word is ψυχή *psyche* (pronounced psoo-khay).

It means:

1. breath
  - a. the breath of life (the vital force which animates the body and shows itself in breathing)
  - b. Life
  - c. that in which there is life (a living being, a living soul)
2. the soul
  - a. the seat of the feelings, desires, affections, aversions (our heart, soul etc.)
  - b. the (human) soul in so far as it is constituted that by the right use of the aids offered it by God it can attain its highest end and secure eternal blessedness, the soul regarded as a moral being designed for everlasting life
  - c. the soul as an essence which differs from the body and is not dissolved by death (distinguished from other parts of the body)

The use of this word lets us know that it is not simply the man’s life (as in living days) that Jesus is talking about, but all that he is -- his life, soul, feeling/desires/aversions/etc. All that the rich man was was tied up in his possessions. In his teaching on worry, Jesus reminds us not to worry about our life, but he means all of our life, everything, our psyche-- not just our living days.

### Worry

1. mental distress or agitation resulting from concern usually for something impending or anticipated
2. an instance or occurrence of distress or agitation

In Luke 12:22 & 12:26, the word for “worry” is *merimnao* (pronounced mer-im-nah-o) μεριμνάω. The word means to be troubled with cares, or to care for or look out for something.

### Anxiety

1. apprehensive uneasiness or nervousness usually over an impending or anticipated ill
2. (medical) an abnormal and overwhelming apprehension and fear often marked by physical signs (such as tension, sweating, and increased pulse rate), by doubt concerning the reality and nature of the threat, and by self-doubt about one’s capacity to cope with it
3. mentally distressing concern or interest
4. a strong desire sometimes mixed with doubt, fear, or uneasiness

In Luke 12:29, the word for “anxious” is *metemorizomai* (pronounced met-eh-o-rid-zo-mai) μετεωρίζομαι. The word means “to rise up on high/to put a ship out to sea upon the deep.” It is used as a metaphor taken from this idea of ships being tossed about on the deep by wind and waves: “to cause one to waver or fluctuate in the mind,” “to agitate or harass with cares,” “to make anxious.”

## Strive

1. to make great efforts to achieve or obtain something
2. to struggle or fight vigorously
3. to quarrel, contend

Interestingly, the word strive shares a root with strife (bitter, sometimes violent, conflict or dissension; an act of contention; quarrel, fight, discord, battle)

In Luke 12:29, the word for “strive” is *zeteo* (pronounced dzay-tay-o) ζητέω. The word means “to seek in order to find; to seek a thing; to seek after, aim at, strive for; to seek, require, demand, crave.”

In Psalm 46:10, the word for “be still” or “cease striving” is *rapha* (pronounced raw-faw) רָפָא. The word means “to let drop, abandon, relax, refrain, let go, be quiet.”

## **Other Resources**

Used in the sermon:

John Piper, *Magnifying God with Money*

Bock, D. L. (1996). *Luke: 9:51–24:53* (Vol. 2, p. 1163).

Other Resources on *Worry & Anxiety*:

Louie Giglio, *Putting an X Through Anxiety*

Jennie Allen, *Get Out of Your Head*

Aundi Kobler, *Try Softer*

Max Lucado, *Anxious for Nothing*

<https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/topics/anxiety-disorders/>

<https://adaa.org/understanding-anxiety>

## Discipleship Groups

**Discipleship Groups** are where our community groups divide into gender-specific groups for a time of more intentional discussion and connection. This creates a safer and more intimate space to open up our hearts in order to grow deeper in the gospel. This time begins with a discussion about Sunday’s sermon and then transitions to a time of transparency where we are honest about where we are relationally, personally, missionally, and spiritually.

### Sermon Discussion (30-40 min)

See Sermon Discussion Notes above.

### RPMS (30-45 min)

<b>R</b>	How are you doing <b>RELATIONALLY</b> ? (friends, coworkers, neighbors, spouses, family -- also, how are you building relationships with people different from you or on the margins?)
<b>P</b>	How are you doing <b>PERSONALLY</b> ? (emotionally, mentally, physically, financially, etc.)

<b>M</b>	How are you doing <b>MISSIONALLY</b> ? (what you're doing daily to be on mission, how you're engaging people, etc)
<b>S</b>	How are you doing <b>SPIRITUALLY</b> ? (time with God, in Scripture, what you're learning, who you're learning from, memorization, etc.)

Prayer (10-15 min)