

YOUR NEW



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YOUR NEW DEFAULT, PART 4: FROM WORRY TO GENEROSITY

It's so easy to worry, and if you're honest, it probably seems a little annoying when Jesus tells you to simply stop worrying (which he does). The real question is how? We'll look at what Jesus says the chief causes of worry are, and what to do about them.

BIG IDEA: Generosity delivers everything money promises.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Spender or saver. Which more accurately describes you? And why?
2. What makes you worry most?
3. Money promises so much—and delivers so little. Have you experienced that to be true?
4. When you read through Matthew 6:19-34, what part of the passage frightens you most? Why?

“Don't store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be. “Your eye is like a lamp that provides light for your body. When your eye is healthy, your whole body is filled with light. But when your eye is unhealthy, your whole body is filled with darkness. And if the light you think you have is actually darkness, how deep that darkness is! “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. “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? 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? Can all your worries add a single moment to your life? “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, yet Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are. 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? “So don't worry about these things, saying, ‘What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?’ These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need. “So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today's trouble is enough for today.”

Matthew 6:19-34 (NLT)

5. Generosity delivers everything money promises. What do you think? How could giving more cause you to worry less?

MOVING FORWARD

The action step this week is to increase your giving to the local church for the next month. Take whatever you're giving, and increase it.

In the message, Kim also challenged everyone to give 10% of their income to the local church starting now. The reality is that for many people 10% is a big stretch.

That's why there's this action step: double your giving to the local church for the next month. Take whatever you're giving, and increase it.

Every time a church leader talks about giving in this way, people get upset and point out that 10% is an Old Testament standard. And they're correct. 10% is the Old Testament standard, and Christians don't live by the Old Testament. In which case you might look to the New Testament standard of giving, which is deeply radical generosity (*selling properties and possessions and giving radically*).

So, if that freaks you out too much? Stick to the Old Testament. Or maybe just increase your giving. That's a good place to start.

If you want/need some help with personal finances? We can help through the *Financial Peace University*, which has helped many people live with financial margin and live on mission.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

"Wherever the desires of your heart are, there will your treasure be also be." Matthew 6:21 NLT

"Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be." NLT