Turning a Worry List into a Thanksgiving List



Luke 12:22–34

Introduction: “What are you _____ for this year?” But many of us could more quickly answer, “What are you _____ about?” The very things on our worry list are the things Jesus says God provides.

This passage follows the parable of the _____ fool (Luke 12:16–21). The rich man trusted his barns. Jesus calls us to trust our Father.

I. Consider What We _____ About – Luke 12:22–26

A. We worry about the needs of _____ life (v. 22)

- Worry is a mind pulled in _____ directions.
- “Worry is praying to the wrong _____.”
- Our list: _____, Health, _____, The Future

B. _____ is more than the things we worry about (v. 23)

- God gave you _____ life. Will He fail to give the smaller gift?
- “One’s life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses” (v. 15).

C. Worry cannot add _____ thing to our lives (vv. 25–26)

- A cubit was about _____ inches. No one has ever worried himself taller.
- Worry is like a _____ chair: something to do, but it gets you nowhere.

- Worry has never paid a bill, healed a body, or brought a prodigal home. Worry looks at tomorrow without God.

II. Consider How God _____ – Luke 12:24, 27–30

A. He feeds the _____ (v. 24)

- The raven was an _____ bird (Leviticus 11:15), yet God feeds it.
- The raven has no _____ and no barn, yet God feeds it (Psalm 147:9).

"The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening." (1 Kings 17:6)

- Every item of food on your table this Thanksgiving is evidence that God still _____ His children.

B. He clothes the _____ (vv. 27–28)

- Solomon was the _____ king Israel ever had, yet the lilies outshone him.
- The argument is from the _____ to the greater: "How much more will He clothe you?"

C. He calls us to _____ Him (v. 28)

- _____ is simply trusting God: taking Him at His word and resting our full weight on Him.
- _____ and faith both look at tomorrow. Worry sees the problem; faith sees a loving Father.
- _____ Müller cared for thousands of orphans in Bristol, England. With nothing to eat, he thanked God for breakfast, and bread and milk arrived at the door. That is faith.

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." (Hebrews 11:1)

D. He already knows what we _____ (vv. 29–30)

- "The _____ of the world" have no heavenly Father to trust. You have a Father!
- When a child of God lives in constant _____, he lives like an orphan.

"And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:19)

- You serve a Father who already _____, already cares, and already provides (1 Peter 5:7).

III. Consider What God _____ – Luke 12:31–34

A. He gives us His _____ (vv. 31–32)

"Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."

- "Little _____" – we are sheep with a Shepherd (Psalm 23).
- "Your _____" – the God of the universe is our Father.
- "Good _____" – God is not a reluctant giver.
- If God gave His _____, will He hold back bread and clothing?

"He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?" (Romans 8:32)

B. He frees us to be _____ (v. 33)

- Because God provides, we are free to _____.
- Believers should be known as the _____ givers!
- Hold your possessions loosely and use what God gives to meet the needs of others (Luke 19:8; Acts 4:34–35).
- Earthly money bags _____ out; heaven's treasury never _____.
- Every gift given in faith is a deposit in heaven.
- Giving is also an act of _____ (2 Corinthians 9:8). Thankful people are generous people.

C. He holds our _____ (v. 34)

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

- Our hearts follow our _____.
- _____ and _____ are two sides of the same coin. The cure for both: put your treasure, trust, and heart in God.

"…nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy." (1 Timothy 6:17)

Conclusion: Turn Our _____ List into a _____ List In 1621, the _____ at Plymouth gave thanks after a winter that took half their number. God has given us a way to trade our worry for His _____.

Read: Philippians 4:6–7 -

Thanksgiving is the bridge from worry to _____.

I worry about…	**God provides…**	**So I give thanks for…**
What I will eat (v. 22)	He feeds the ravens (v. 24)	Every meal on my table
What I will wear (v. 22)	He clothes the lilies (vv. 27–28)	My clothes and my home
My life and future (vv. 23, 25)	He gives life and holds tomorrow	Each new day He gives me
Will my needs be met? (vv. 29–30)	My Father already knows (v. 30)	A Father who knows and cares
Will I have enough? (v. 33)	He gives me His kingdom (v. 32)	Treasure in heaven that never fails

This Week's Thanksgiving Challenge

- Write down the _____ things you are most worried about, and next to each, a promise from Luke 12.
- At your Thanksgiving table, thank God out _____ for how He has already provided.
- Bless one person this week with a gift, a meal, or a kind word – Pay it Forward!

The Greatest Provision

The greatest thing God has ever provided is His _____, Jesus Christ. Our deepest need is _____ for our sins, and God met that need at the cross (2 Corinthians 9:15). The first step of faith is trusting Him with your _____.