Masterclass the sermon on the mount

MASTERCLASS (January 7 to March 24)

The idea of a "masterclass" is to learn from the world's best experts on a variety of subjects. In a sermon recorded in Matthew 5 to 7, Jesus offers the ultimate — and original — masterclass on Kingdom living. The Sermon on the Mount doesn't say "live this way to be my disciple" but rather "because you are my disciple, this is how you were meant to live." Kingdom living is often in direct opposition to the way of the world. However, when we sit at the feet of the master and learn, we find a life like no other.

Group Discussion

Getting started: What are you most likely to worry about on a regular basis?

- Read *Matthew 6:25-27*. What things do you worry about most often? What is the difference between worry and anxiety? How do each of the things Jesus mentions point to a focus on self rather than on God? How does misguided focus lead to worry? What do the birds teach us about what is important to God?
- 2. Read *Matthew 6:28-30*. What does Jesus call out in His disciples at the end of verse 30? While more faith is not always a cure to worry, a lack of faith always leads to worry. Do you agree or disagree with his statement? Has a bigger or more accurate view of God ever caused you to trust more and worry less?
- 3. Read *Matthew 6:31-33*. How does Jesus contrast the life of the unbeliever with that of the believer? What does Jesus tell us to replace worry with in verse 33? What promise does Jesus make to those who live with kingdom priorities? What does your everyday life show about your priorities and what you seek?
- 4. Read *Matthew 6:34*. When has worrying about something in the future caused you to miss something that God has for you in the present? How often do the things you worry about in the future actually happen?

5. Why do you think God doesn't show us His entire plan for our lives?

Next Steps

- 1. What have you learned about God from His Word?
- 2. How is He asking you to apply it to your life?
- 3. When will you apply it?

Resources

- The Sermon On The Mount by The Bible Project
- The Divine Conspiracy by Dallas Willard

Next Week

We will continue our eleven-week series *Masterclass* with the sermon *Is There Ever A Time To Judge.* We will be in Matthew 7:1-6.

- Jasper: 8, 9:30, and 11 a.m. EST.
- Loogootee: 9 and 10:30 a.m. EST.
- Tell City: 8:30 and 10 a.m. CST.

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