

THE DISCIPLE & ANXIETY PART 2

MATTHEW 6:31-34

A Christian's freedom from anxiety is not due to some guaranteed freedom from trouble, but to the folly of worry and especially to the confidence that God is our Father, that even permitted suffering is within the orbit of His care.

-John Stott

I. The Disciple's Precept

II. The Disciple's Pursuit

III. The Disciple's Perspective

Small Group Application Questions

Getting to Know You

1. How far ahead on your calendar do you usually find yourself planning things?

Into the Bible

2. If we can live in the confidence of God's provision for our earthly needs, that should free us up to focus our attention and effort on doing work for the Kingdom. Read I Corinthians 9:24-27, II Timothy 2:4, and Colossians 3:23-24. What do these passages indicate about the direction and motivation of our daily activity?

Application

3. In verse 32, Jesus again refers to food and drink and clothing as something eagerly sought after by the Gentiles. Gentiles, as those outside the promises of God to Israel, shared a world view that told them "you only get what you earn" and even that was insecure due to the hand of fate or the whim of their gods. In what ways does our world view as Christians differ from that of the Gentiles in this regard? Luke 11:11-13.

4. The consequences of the Fall are far-reaching indeed and Jesus is nothing if not a realist about the troubles we face daily (v.34) but how can we be sure that tomorrow “will take care of itself”? Psalm 91:1-11.

For Families

5. Talk with your children about the good gifts God has given them.