



WOODLAND HEIGHTS

CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Questions Jesus Asked: Drawing Near to the Lord Part #2 – Why Do You Worry?

Small Group Discussion Guide on Luke 12:22-31

Woodland Heights Christian Church Core Value Connection

This sermon on Luke 12:22-31 directly connects with the Woodland Heights Christian Church core value of a **Biblical Worldview**. The sermon emphasizes replacing worry with trust in God's provision and seeking His kingdom first, which aligns with developing a Biblical Worldview.

This core value encourages believers to view life's challenges—such as worry about material needs—through the lens of Scripture, fostering hope, peace, and trust in God's sovereignty. By focusing on the question, "Why do you worry?" the sermon challenges individuals to adopt a perspective rooted in God's promises, reshaping their priorities to align with His truth and provision, which produces victorious living in the life of a believer.

Section #1 – ENCOUNTER

"Observing God's Word"

Imagine you're standing on a stormy shore, waves crashing, and the wind howling with uncertainty. In the midst of life's chaos, the big question that flows from God's Word, "Why do you worry?" is like a lighthouse, guiding you to the safe harbor of God's provision and peace. In Luke 12:22-31, Jesus calls us to trust in God's care, pointing to the ravens, lilies, and grass as evidence of His faithfulness. This question challenges us to anchor our hearts in the reality of God's sovereignty, letting go of worry to embrace His peace.

Let's start by anchoring ourselves in Scripture. Read Luke 12:22-31 (ESV) as a group, family, or individual, letting God's Word sink in. Picture the scene: Jesus teaching a diverse crowd, urging them to trust God over worldly concerns.

Core Questions

- What stands out to you about the setting or the context of Jesus' question?
- What are key words, phrases, or themes that grab your attention in Luke 12:22-31?
- What is the main lesson dealing with the theme of "worry" that God wants you to remember from this passage?

Section #2 – EXPLORE

“Understanding the Passage and Sermon”

Let’s unpack the big question from this sermon, “Why do you worry?” and the three responses to anxiety and worry outlined in the message – Reshape, Remember, and Refine. Discuss these as a group or reflect on them individually to connect the sermon’s insights to your life.

Quote – “Faith is not the absence of fear; it’s the courage to trust God in the face of fear.” – **Charles Spurgeon**

- [Reflect on the quote from Charles Spurgeon and discuss the importance of a relying on your steadfast faith in the Lord when facing a time of fear.](#)

Answer the following questions to deepen your understanding of Luke 12:22-31 and the sermon’s insights. Encourage group members to reflect on how the sermon connects to your life.

Response #1 - Reshape Your Priorities

The sermon highlights Jesus’ command in Luke 12:22-23 to not be anxious about life’s necessities, emphasizing that worry distracts us from God’s provision and peace. It often distracts you from the most important things that the Lord wants you to accomplish.

Reflect on the definition of worry as “an all-consuming focus” on distractions instead of God’s desire for your life.

- [How does worry pull us away from trusting God?](#)

The sermon references a 2023 American Psychological Association study noting that 76% of adults worry about money, health, or the future.

- [What are some common sources of worry in your life? How can reshaping your priorities to trust God help address these sources of worry?](#)

Response #2 – Remember God’s Provision

In Luke 12:24-28, Jesus points to the ravens, lilies, and grass as evidence of God’s care, asking, “If God so clothes the grass... how much more will he clothe you?” The sermon underscores the fact that worry is futile and cannot add value to life.

- [How does Jesus’ use of examples like ravens and lilies illustrate God’s provision for His creation?](#)
- [Why is it significant that ravens were considered “unclean” in Jewish culture?](#)

The sermon cites Matthew 11:28, “Come to me, all of you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”

- [How does remembering God’s promises and provision help you combat worry in practical ways?](#)

Response #3 – Refine Your Resolve

Jesus concludes in Luke 12:29-31 by urging us to “seek his kingdom” first, promising that God will provide for your needs in life. The sermon emphasizes making the pursuit of God’s kingdom the top priority for your life.

- What does it mean to “seek first the kingdom of God” in your daily life, according to the sermon and passage?

The sermon quotes Philippians 4:19, “My God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.”

- Share an example of a time when trusting God’s provision helped you overcome worry or fear.

Section #3 – EMBRACE

“Applying God’s Word”

Quote: “When we put God first, all other things fall into their proper place or drop out of our lives.” – **A.W. Tozer**

Go deeper by exploring how Luke 12:22-31 and the sermon’s insights can shape your life today. Discuss these application questions and commit to one actionable step this week.

Personal Reflection: Jesus’ question, “Why do you worry?” invites us to examine our hearts and trust God’s provision. Take a moment to identify one specific worry in your life.

- Share how you can apply one of the sermon’s responses – Reshape, Remember, or Refine – to address this worry.

Challenge: Commit to one specific action this week to replace worry with trust in God (Examples: praying daily about a specific concern, memorizing Matthew 6:34, or prioritizing a spiritual discipline like Bible study).

Scripture Connection: The sermon references Philippians 4:6-7, “Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything... Then you will experience God’s peace.” Read this verse and discuss how prayer and gratitude can transform your perspective on worry.

- How does trusting God’s promises strengthen your faith and impact others?

Inspirational Example: Reflect on the sermon’s illustration of the hiker weighed down by a backpack full of “what-ifs.” How does this story inspire you to let go of worry and trust God’s guidance?

Consider Abraham Lincoln’s story about not crossing the Fox River until you reach it. How can this perspective help you focus on trusting God today instead of worrying about tomorrow?

Challenge: Identify one practical step you can take this week to lighten your “worry load” (e.g., journaling your concerns and praying over them, limiting time on anxiety-inducing media, or encouraging a friend to trust God).

Prayer

Close your time by praying. Invite group members to pray, asking God to help them replace worry with His peace through trust, prayer, and seeking His kingdom. Thank the Lord for His faithful provision and for guiding us through His Word.