



No Worries (2): The Future Belongs to God

Matthew 6:25-34; James 4:13-17

OPEN

How have you noticed worry in your life/thoughts this past week?

Any worry insights from last week that have lingered in your mind?

DISCUSS

Read Matthew 6:25-34 again to refresh your memory of the theme verse for the *No Worries* series.

What is the difference between *wants* and *needs*? How much are you in tune with what you need? With what you want?

Do you believe God knows what you need (Matt 26:32)?

What would you share with someone who asked you how to discover what they most desire (want) in life? What would you have them do to reveal their core desires?

Do you see feel a tension between your own desires and Jesus' command to seek first the kingdom of God (Matt 6:33)? Explain.



Read James 4:13-17.

In your estimation, how much of your worry (even about wants and desires) are wrapped in the *future*?

How does James approach the topic of the future? How does it relate to what Jesus said in our Matthew 6 passage?

What is the difference between our worry of the future and what James 4:15 tells us to do? Explain.

How does James label "future worry" in vs. 16? Why do you think he is so strong in his position?

Close your time by making another worry list—this time focusing on worries that are future oriented. When everyone has had a few minutes to write their own future worries, spend two minutes in silent prayer giving God your list and thinking of the words of Jesus and James. At the end of the silent time, have one person close in prayer.

YOUR NEXT STEP...

- Pay attention to your worry of the future this week. Whenever you catch yourself worrying about the future, read on of the following Bible verses to help bring your mind back to God and away from your worry: Matthew 6:25-34, James 4:13-17; Psalm 23; Philippians 4:4-9; Romans 8:28-39.