

Fully Alive - experiencing the Good Life according to Jesus

study #8

Reflecting on Sunday's Teaching :: "Worry-Free Living"

As we think back to Sunday's teaching, what stands out for you?

- Was there something that hit home, challenged, or encouraged you?
- What questions are you left with and what are you doing with them?
- Is Jesus realistic about 'letting go and letting God'?

Read the Text :: Matthew 6: 19-34

If possible, read the text aloud from a few different translations - and take note of the differences and how they help you hear Jesus from a new perspective. (And since this is a well-known passage, perhaps read it slowly and reflectively so that you can hear his words in a new way).

Digging In ::

- Share together how you've often responded to Jesus' command - "Don't worry about your life."
 - What are the things or relationships that you are prone to worry about? Be honest.
 - Do you find yourself torn—some days prone to worry, other days more at ease? Why do you suppose this happens? Why does 'not worrying about our stuff' seem so unnatural for us?
 - What's the difference between not worrying and just being irresponsible?
 - What happens to you—physically, emotionally, relationally, financially—when you worry?
 - How did Daniel's teaching help you or speak into this?
- What portion of Jesus' teaching here feels most pertinent for YOU and for Lambrick's congregation these days—where and what are our treasures, seeing with God's eyes, living worry-free in dependence on God? Feel free to also recall things from Jesus' earlier teaching in the Sermon on the Mount.
- Is God generous or stingy about supplying the things we need? What's been your own real-life experience?
 - What is Jesus trying to teach us from 'the birds of the air' and 'the flowers of the field'?
 - Why does Jesus emphasize "much more" and not just "enough"?

Prayer ::

- Alone and in your own 'quiet space', what is God teaching you about himself and yourself and what that one-on-one relationship might look like, especially about trusting him with your real-life things?
- As a group (family, small group, congregation), what might God be teaching us about our role and his role in the practicalities of life? And what might he be teaching us about actually living out his teaching in our family/group/congregational life?
- Invite, describe and share your personal 'occasions for unexpected joy' as you discover renewed relationship with your Abba Father.
- Ask God to help you find personal and practical ways to celebrate your freedom in Jesus.

Ah dear ones, privately and together, let us learn from and celebrate with our rescuing brother Jesus. ☺