

Finding God's Presence When You Feel His Absence

Session 2: When Warring with Worry

Luke 10:38-42; Matthew 6:25-34

1. What motivated Martha to open her home to Jesus and his disciples?
2. How did Mary rebel against the cultural expectations of her day?
3. Rather than condemn Martha, Jesus consoled and gently corrected her. For what?
4. Conviction about worry's _____ is not enough to counteract it.
Instead, we must be convinced of God's _____.
5. Martha worried because she was _____ from her primary responsibility.
The crowd worried because they _____ God's love and power to provide.
6. How can we win the worry war?
 - _____ to make knowing and following God our top priority.

- _____ from attempts to control God, circumstances, and people.
- _____ troublesome thoughts with Scripture, meditating on God's Word rather than our worries.

Discussion Questions

1. What spiritual principle did Jesus teach in the verses we read?
2. Compare:

Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well (Matthew 6:33).

Though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. On the contrary... we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ (2 Corinthians 10:3, 4, 5).

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things (Philippians 4:6-8).

What differences and similarities do you see in the above approaches to worry/anxiety?

3. Worry exposes our motivations, ambitions, and ultimate trust. What does your anxiety reveal about you?
4. How will you carry God's non-anxious presence into your world?