



DATE	April 30, 2017
SPEAKER	David Smith
TITLE	Why Worry?
SERIES	It's natural to ask Jesus a lot of questions. But what if we flip the script? Let's stop to consider some of the challenging questions Jesus asks us in the Bible.

As technologically advanced and globally interconnected as our world has become, we still struggle with worry today just as people did two thousand years ago.

1. Think over the past weeks; what has brought you worry—both in your personal life and on a global scale? Do you think people had similar types of concerns back when Jesus walked the Earth? Why is worry an ongoing struggle for humans?
2. As Christians, we all want to be devoted to Christ. But often, our devotion shifts to other things, sometimes without us realizing it. Think about what is currently getting your enthusiasm, dedication, attention, commitment, duty, and assignment. What do you talk about and pray about most? Is it wrong to be devoted to your children, your spouse, your friends, or your career?
3. Read Philippians 4:6-7. The Bible reassures us numerous times not to worry or fear. Do you believe that there are benefits to worrying? Is it wrong to be concerned about something and take action to address/prepare for it? What are some specific signs that you're becoming too concerned with something in your life?
4. There are many examples of people in the Bible who were asked to do seemingly impossible things or were in dire situations, yet God came through: Acts 16:16-40, Daniel 3, Judges 7:1-23, Exodus 16-17. What do you think we can learn from these stories about how to handle our own worry?
5. Read Matthew 6:26, Psalm 144:3-4, and Luke 12:6-7. According to today's lesson, God sees people as much more valuable than animals and plants, which He watches over. If God promises to care and provide for everyone, why is there still poverty, homelessness, and need in the world? How do we reconcile the global state with God's promise to care for everyone? Do we have any responsibility to provide that assistance to those in need?
6. We often justify our own worry but dismiss the worries of others as unreasonable. Pastor David pointed out that simply telling someone "Stop worrying about it" doesn't help. What are some specific, helpful things you can say to someone who is worrying to offer them comfort and support?

Spend time in prayer asking God to show you what steps you can take to bring your focus and trust back onto Him. Commit to being more thankful for the blessings He has given you. Then, look for ways to provide support for those who are worrying or in need this week.