



Sermon on the Mount
Wk.26 "Everything is Just Fine!"
By Pastor Jody May 02/16/2025

[CALL TO HEAR]

Matthew 6:25-34 ESV

Do Not Be Anxious

²⁵"Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁸And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³²For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

³⁴"Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

Pastor - "People of God, this is the Word of God."

People - "Thanks be to God."

Pray

Illustration

Growing up I never knew how much my father suffered for me until I was old enough to recognize what he did as a disabled man. My dad worked every day of my life while I was living at home, and many years before that, in the hot Miami sun, always returning home drenched with sweat and exhaustion. His occupation as a specialized electrician working to install large commercial



Sermon on the Mount
Wk.26 "Everything is Just Fine!"
By Pastor Jody May 02/16/2025

signs and neon, had him traveling all over south Florida spending his days hanging off the sides of buildings, always on ladders/scaffolding, hoisting heavy loads above his head, slowly destroying his body. Between 1970 and 1988 he went through two of his three back surgeries plus two shoulder cuff repairs, and still always returned to work as soon as he could. I was able to work his last summer with him in 1991 before he turned 62. I was glad I could help him while learning why I didn't want to do what he did.

My dad endured all of that while at the same time he never complained about what he did. Oh sure, we would know when he was hurting but he never whined, and he never let it hold him down. He always fought through the pain, turmoil of medical procedures, and rehab on the go, to get back to work. Why? Because my father if anything understood his role as a provider for me and mom and knew he didn't want me concerned about the bills. No, my job was to grow up and become more than he was. My job was not to worry about tomorrows for there would always be food on the plate, a roof over my head, and clothes on my back. That was how he loved me, I didn't have to worry about those things. I didn't even know how much that affected me until his death 17 years ago when I was faced with the realization with dad gone who has my back now? So, in all the ways my dad failed to be the spiritual leader in my home he did paint a picture of a Father that loves me and doesn't want to see me anxious over the challenges of tomorrow.

Intro.

If my Father who was limited in his abilities, in his knowledge, and in his capacity to love me, then what does that say about our Heavenly Father who is not limited by anything!?

Matthew 7:11 ESV

If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

Our father in a much grander way, in a more securing way, is all about giving us the good gift of not worrying about our tomorrows, giving us what we need when we need it, if we are but willing to ask Him. And why do we have to ask



Sermon on the Mount
Wk.26 "Everything is Just Fine!"
By Pastor Jody May 02/16/2025

Him? Because the things God is concerned with the most with us is our relationship with Him, how we respond to Him in worship, so that we learn by answered prayers our heavenly Father **always has our back**. God is going to answer our anxieties about this life by prayer and supplication because that's how we learn to practice faith ([Phil 4:5-7](#)). We pray, we seek the Kingdom, God answers, and the answer, whatever it is, is ok, and we rest in it.

Today Jesus moves our concerns from the treasures we waste so much time in trying to accumulate (19-24) and now puts our attention on perhaps why we spend so much time about storing up. Today we turn our attention to what we all share, those concerns and worries for our tomorrows, **specifically will we have enough?** Will we have enough to get by, will we have enough food on the table for the family, will we succeed, will we keep our heads above poverty, are we going to make it? Jesus answers us with why we shouldn't worry and follows up with a question of His own:

²⁵ **"Therefore** I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. **Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?**

It's not that He is belittling our needs, but He is belittling the world and its' ability to threaten your peace, because a Christian's faith is supposed to sustain them even when times get a little tough.

"Therefore", means in the Bible always go back before and see what the cause of the statement is – "You cannot serve God and money." (v.24). Therefore, since you don't serve money, since you don't treasure earthly things, since your eyes are lit up by a heavenly light from within, you **CAN'T SERIOUSLY** be anxious about this life even the things accorded to daily living. Christians don't serve appetites for worldly things; we are beyond that.

God will take care of our daily needs, but we should not be losing sleep over the 'how', He will get it done! Isn't it good to know that someone cares for you, knows what you need before you ask, and will give you exactly what is required for you to do what you most desire, bring Him glory!



Sermon on the Mount
Wk.26 "Everything is Just Fine!"
By Pastor Jody May 02/16/2025

For consideration today we are going to condense this passage into two truths about God, and a call to us how to practice believing those truths. First thing we will do is look at the fact that **God yes indeed will take care of our physical needs**. God is not some deistic creator that calls you forth, sees to your Salvation, and then backs off to see if you will make it. No, He is involved in our everyday care much like our earthly fathers that love us imperfectly. Next you will see that God is wrapped up in our daily needs because He is the author and orchestrating power of our destinies, **He will take care of our futures**. Nothing we do is outside of God's will or control, so how He is providing for us right now is to lead us to our ultimate glorious reunion with Him. Lastly, we see by our Lord's soft rebuke what it is we are supposed to be doing instead of worrying and that is **practicing our Faith**. Practicing our faith means being ok in all circumstances, focusing on doctrinal truth not worldly doubts, and taking our concerns to Him in continual heavenly communication.

MP:

Worry about practicing Faith, and let God worry about the rest.

Friends I am not saying that is easy, and I am not saying everything will then go your way if you 'just' do what I say today. What I am saying though, in agreement with Jesus and scripture, is that you will not add a day to your life (6:27) by worrying about what the world worries about. Instead choose to be concerned over bringing God glory, knowing it brings you joy, by practicing your faith.

1. God will take care of our physical needs.

First of all, we need to understand, what John Stott calls, the commonsense found in scripture.¹

You know that has been a phrase used a lot lately in our new executive branch of the government. That a lot of their decision making just comes from common sense, meaning a *common shared wisdom on how things should*

¹ John R. Stott, [The Message of the Sermon on the Mount](#)/Revised Edition (Downers Grove, IL: Inter Varsity Press, 2020), 140-143.



Sermon on the Mount
Wk.26 "Everything is Just Fine!"
By Pastor Jody May 02/16/2025

work. There is nothing in the teachings of Jesus that says you shouldn't have any concerns in the morning when you wake up, that your food will magically appear before you, clothes will materialize on your back, and your earthly needs will be met with no earthly intervention on your part.

There is a part to play in our acquirement of daily needs, that is we are active in *ordinary means of participation*. So quickly from scripture I want to point us to three things Christians are not exempt from in this world when it comes to God providing for our physical needs.

- **Believers are not exempt of earning their own living.**

1 Thessalonians 4:11-12 ESV

And to aspire to live quietly, and to **mind your own affairs**, and to **work with your hands**, as we instructed you, so that you may walk properly before outsiders and be dependent on no one.

We work because it is expected in culture, we mind our own affairs by the provision of what we can gain from work, earning a good reputation in our community that we are there to contribute to the welfare of our town.

2 Thessalonians 3:10 ESV

For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat.

We work so as to take responsibility for ourselves and not overburdened those in the church.

1 Timothy 5:8 ESV

But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

We work so as to provide for our family it is not the responsibility of the state to raise one's family neither is it the responsibility of the church unless in times of distress like death or sickness. Believers are not exempt from work they are expected to participate in the gathering of their needs, common sense.



Sermon on the Mount
Wk.26 "Everything is Just Fine!"
By Pastor Jody May 02/16/2025

- **Believers are not exempt for the responsibility of others.**

Galatians 6:2 ESV

Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Acts 2:45 ESV

And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.

Because of the command to work it does not mean you don't help take care of others when they cannot take care of themselves. Common sense from scripture understands that people will need to be provided for from time to time by other believers.

- **Believers are not exempt from experiencing trouble.**

John 16:33 ESV

"I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

Acts 14:22 ESV

"strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God."

Believers, just because we will be provided for does not mean it will always be comfortable, and it doesn't always mean in abundance. There are seasons of plenty and seasons of little. It is always a good habit to function out of a little and try to put the extra towards increasing God's Kingdom somehow.

So, the Common Sense we gain from scripture is believers are not exempt from work, we are not exempt from taking care of each other, and we are not exempt from a life that has hardships. Good thing to remember as you read this text and could be tempted to think that everything will work out unicorns and rainbows. Remember God's number one goal is to make you like Christ.



Sermon on the Mount
Wk.26 "Everything is Just Fine!"
By Pastor Jody May 02/16/2025

Secondly, we need to embrace how God loves His people.

²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet **your heavenly Father** feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

Notice family that Jesus draws a connection to a relationship not just to an opportunity to eat. We are not like birds where raw resources are provided and it is up to you every day to go and get it. The birds of the air, they do not toil to save ahead or gather up for a rainy day and yet "your Father" still feeds them. It is nothing to feed daily the 10,824 different bird species comprising the 50 Billion birds in the world.² Your Father doesn't sweat it, He put an automatic feeding system in place to provide for them and is so doing has contributed to insect population management all throughout the world.

Jesus offers this truth, if "**your heavenly Father**" not their father, but the being in whose image you are made, cares for them that way and still uses that creation to bring Him glory through nature management, how much more will God care for you? You who are made in His image, you who are made with care and in whose body lies an eternal soul that holds an eternal value to God. In you whose future is connected to God's name so that none can ever say that God is not loving or caring, so that the devil will never be able to say that of God. Jesus says this is the one providing for you, think on this.

²⁸ And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin,²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

Again, it's all about relationship not opportunity. The things that God makes for beauty will bring forth beauty in the way in which He intended it. It is

² <https://www.flockingaround.com/post/how-many-birds-are-in-the-world#:~:text=Currently%2C%20there%20are%2010%2C824%20species,ONLY%22%2010%2C824%20species%20of%20bird.>



Sermon on the Mount
Wk.26 "Everything is Just Fine!"
By Pastor Jody May 02/16/2025

interesting how Jesus makes a comparison to His ancestor Solomon. Solomon was set apart, He was adorned by God with wisdom which brought along with it riches, power, and fame all the things that makes mankind visually attractive. Jesus is commenting now on Solomon's dress, that is what **array** means, presentation of who you are through clothing. If it is nothing for God to make beautiful that which will die soon, will He not so make you and I appear beautiful to the world.

Clothes in our modern world is so much more than just protection from the elements and to cover the modest essentials. Clothes back then for the Gentiles was to show worth and wealth, it was a portrayal of how things were going in your life. It is much the same way now except now clothes identify you with your tribe and then how far in that tribe you go. If you are a serious gym goer, you wear gym shark and you don't just own one sweatshirt your whole wardrobe is in gym shark. People do the same with what sports brand they like, what purses they use, what shoes they stick with, it's all about declaring to the world this is who I am. We all do that, it's our culture. But to worry about it, so you can rep rightly, now that's where sin comes in.

Again, our Father who has a vested interest in us, to make us into the glorious image of His Son, that is what makes us beautiful. May we all desire to be arrayed with the likeness of Christ, this is what makes us attractive to the world! There used to be a saying that started in the dark ages, "*clothes make the man*" meaning it gives a person dignity and value.³ The reality though is that the man makes the clothes, a person's regality and worth comes from their identity in Christ not from what they disguise their body in.

The two examples of birds and grass of the fields, they are not to be concerned with the how they are fed and with how they look, no **they are to be concerned with growing**. Are they living up to their potential, do the things they do point to God, are they living as they were created to live, not

³ The proverb as it is recorded in Latin by Erasmus (Adagia 3.1.60) is: "*vestis virum facit*" meaning "clothes make the man." In the *Adagia*, Erasmus quotes Quintilian's (Marcus Fabius Quintilianus) work, *Institutions* (orat. 8 pr. 20): "To dress within the formal limits and with an air gives men, as the Greek line testifies, authority." <https://alex-65670.medium.com/what-is-the-origin-of-clothes-make-the-man-7f75e070bf45#:~:text=Although%20Clothes%20make%20the%20man,its%20cover%2C%20as%20it%20were.>



Sermon on the Mount
Wk.26 "Everything is Just Fine!"
By Pastor Jody May 02/16/2025

worrying but bringing praise to God. This is Kingdom living and this is what it means for us to practice our faith.

Family the last reality I want you to grasp is that,

It does not mean you will get what you need when you think you need it.

Sometimes you will get hungry and sometimes you will look like you got hit with a truck, and God never promised anything different. That does not mean you were not given what you need to get through the day the way in which God intended. Sometimes the flower that stands out the most is the one trying to grow in the crack of the sidewalk declaring to the world it has enough, it can bring glory to its' maker, and it will not miss an opportunity to do what it was made to do. This family is who we are, we are not dependent on what the world gives us to give glory to our maker, but instead we are glorified by making the most with what we are given! Glory is not given nor displayed by ample blessings, but glory blossoms when we do all we can with what we have.

God loves His people by providing for them in a way that brings glory to Himself, in how you get it, and in how you display what He has given you to be glorious to others. Because of these truths the commonsense conclusion brings us to our next point.

2. God will take care of our futures.

³⁴"Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

Once you get that concern out of the way for everyday needs Jesus puts his finger on what drives us to worry, it is the fear of the unknown in the future we cannot see. You see if you don't ever tackle that source, if you never go after the root of doubt like you would with a weed, it will always spring back up. The problem we have in being satisfied with what we have today is because somehow, we got sucked into believing a faulty doctrine, an unsubstantiated belief, a heretical thought that all is left up to chance, and



Sermon on the Mount
Wk.26 "Everything is Just Fine!"
By Pastor Jody May 02/16/2025

that is, **how your future goes is ALL up to you!** That is a worldly doctrine, that is a gospel that tickles the ears of the current evangelical population ([2 Tim 4:3](#)).

Family I have lived long enough to know that picture of what you would like your life to turn out like rarely happens. As a matter of fact, if you let that image drive you it will consume you with anxieties because very rarely do your ways and God ways align up accurately ([Is. 55:8](#)). Any time you start to direct your life towards a worldly physical future, and all your decision making goes into trying to make that happen, you will very soon find yourself drifting away from God, from the church, and from the goal of being conformed into the image of Christ.

Instead let me share with you some biblical truth about our tomorrows.

Deuteronomy 32:39 ESV

"See now that I, even I, am he,
and there is no god beside me;
I kill and I make alive;
I wound and I heal;
and there is **none that can deliver** out of my hand.

Job 14:5 ESV

Since his days are determined,
and the number of his months is with you,
and you have **appointed** his limits that he cannot pass,

1 Samuel 2:6 ESV

The Lord kills and brings to life;
he brings down to Sheol and raises up.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 ESV

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:
²a time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;



Sermon on the Mount
Wk.26 "Everything is Just Fine!"
By Pastor Jody May 02/16/2025

Psalm 39:4 ESV

"O Lord, make me know my end
and what is the measure of my days;
let me know how fleeting I am!

Psalm 139:16 ESV

Your eyes saw my unformed substance;
in your book were written, every one of them,
the days that were formed for me,
when as yet there was none of them.

All these scriptures allude to the fact that God and God alone has determined the moment of a person's birth and the moment of their death, and there is none that can change that. I heard it said this past week, "*A person's survival depends on divine sovereignty not human anxiety.*"⁴ God has mapped all our days from the beginning to the end, He has already supplied along that route everything we need to get there (physical needs), and He will make sure everyone gets to that point. Jesus said "Our Heavenly Father" the one that cares, that one who caused us to be born into His image, the one that has decided to use us to bring the knowledge of the son into the world, family how can God ever leave that up to chance!?

You can either believe at this point a total rejection of scripture that God is not there which is **atheism**.

You can believe He is there and does not care and that is **deism**.

You can believe that He is there but is not powerful enough to be counted on, that is **finite theism**.

All of that is a rejection of the scripture we just read this morning, all of that will make you miserable because you now live under the false assumption that you must make life work, and all of that will never get rid of your anxiety.

⁴ Daniel L. Akin, [Exalting Jesus in The Sermon on the Mount](#)/Christ-Centered Exposition, (Brentwood, TN: B&H Publishing, 2019), 114.



Sermon on the Mount
Wk.26 "Everything is Just Fine!"
By Pastor Jody May 02/16/2025

That leaves us with one choice this morning family if we truly want to be rid of the cares of this world.

3. We will focus on practicing our faith.

³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Jesus calls us to an action at the end of His gentle pleading with us not to be driven by our anxieties. He says "BUT" meaning "INSTEAD OF", commit yourself to this continual action. Seek out the Rule and Reign of God in all things of life. Choose to live in the Kingdom the first thing in the morning. Greet the Father with reverence, commit yourself to His Words first, pray and choose to be active in His domain. Seek out that which is righteous, that alludes to the SoM, all those great qualities in chapter 5, all the instructions on how to live them out in Chp. 6, pursue those things. Jesus states that food, clothing, daily needs, a hope in a future, comes from the practice of Kingdom Living. *"As you seek God with your life, He will take care of you."*⁵

That road map of life you have laid out, that image of your future where everything is cool and alright, throw that in the trash. Here's your road map, live every day for God, do the things you are called to do in the day, and everything will work out the way it is supposed to. **Worry about practicing your faith and let God worry about the rest.**

[CALL TO OBEY]

³⁴ "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

Paul gives an accurate description of what this looks like, I commend this to you to process on this week, we don't have time to preach through it today, but it is good for you to receive and chew on.

⁵ Daniel L. Akin, [Exalting Jesus in The Sermon on the Mount](#)/Christ-Centered Exposition, (Brentwood, TN: B&H Publishing, 2019), 114.



Sermon on the Mount
Wk.26 "Everything is Just Fine!"
By Pastor Jody May 02/16/2025

Philippians 4:5-7 ESV

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

What does that look like?

- Stop worrying about your little Kingdom and start seeking God's big kingdom first.
- Stop spending time worrying on things set in the future and worry on the things of the day.
- Start practicing spreading the reason for the joy you have in the future you can't see.

Worry about practicing Faith, and let God worry about the rest.

Family may we all work at not being anxious about tomorrow for sufficient for the day is its' own trouble, the work of seeking the Kingdom first.

Prayer

Communion

Matthew 26:26-29 ESV

²⁶Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." ²⁷And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, ²⁸for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."



Sermon on the Mount
Wk.26 "Everything is Just Fine!"
By Pastor Jody May 02/16/2025

Today when you eat of the bread remember the life of Jesus. The only way Jesus got to that upper room that night was that His mind was consumed with the work that the Father had already laid out for Him. His mind had a focus in the midst of temptation, during all manners of earthly trials, trusting that His Father would deliver Him from an eternal death if He would but put all His trust in His Father's plans. Praise be to Him for His steadfast commitment!

Today when you drink the juice remember the cost of our sin displayed by His blood. We would not follow the plans of God; we were set on building our own little Kingdoms. But God being rich and mercy and grace opened the path for redemption through the blood of His Son who was obedient to the point of death on a cross. Praise be to Him for His wonderful Love!

[CONFESSION OF FAITH]

* The Congregation will stand

Elder – "Christians, what do we believe?"

Congregation - recites

LBCF 5.7 of Divine Providence

God's Providence Cares Especially for His Church
Although God's providence in a general way includes all creatures, his providence in a special way takes care of his church and works all things to its good.

1 Timothy 4:10; Amos 9:8-9; Isaiah 43:3-5

[OFFERING+LAST SONG]

[BENEDICTION]

Go in the name of the Father, that providentially provides for all His children ensuring the narrow way will lead them home.



**Sermon on the Mount
Wk.26 "Everything is Just Fine!"
By Pastor Jody May 02/16/2025**

Go in the name of the Son, that was concerned more with bringing in the Kingdom of God and demonstrated the worth of it in life and death.

Go in the name of and power of the HS, that calls us to seek first the Kingdom of God, that calls us to put aside earthly concerns and sends us to share our hope with the world.



Sermon on the Mount
Wk.26 "Everything is Just Fine!"
By Pastor Jody May 02/16/2025

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