

Thornbury Baptist Church
Small Group Discussion Questions

Talk Date: September 21st 2025

Talk title: Do Not Worry

Passage: Matt 6:25-34

Speaker: David Lawrence

Discussion Questions

- In verse 25 Jesus anticipates that, if taken seriously, his teaching will cause his disciples to be worried (that's why he tells them *not* to worry!). In your Bibles, look back across the things that Jesus has defined as his disciples' 'new normal' in the Kingdom of God.
 - Can you see anything that could cause Jesus' followers to feel worried? (maybe, for example: 5:10-12; 5:16; 5:39-42; 5:44; 6:19-21).
 - Is there anything that makes group members feel worried about following Jesus?
 - What is at that root of that worry, do you think?
- In verse 25 Jesus says that we should prioritise our *life* over even our food and clothes. In verse 33 Jesus says that prioritising our 'life' is done by prioritising God's kingdom. What does that look like for people in the group? (David gave illustrations in the talk).
 - How do Jesus' words in Matthew 7:21 help us understand what it means to seek the Kingdom above all else?
- Jesus offered two 'case studies' in anxiety-free living: birds and flowers (26-29). What do each teach us about anxiety-free living?
- Jesus suggests that the root of courage in seeking the Kingdom is a lack of faith (30).
 - How do fear and faith interact in peoples' experience?
 - What have people found can strengthen their faith? (see also for example, Isaiah 41:10; Romans 10:17; Hebrews 12:1-3).
- 'Just live one day at a time'. Is that a fair summary of Jesus' final piece of advice in this passage (34)?
- Jesus doesn't promise trouble-free life, but he does hold out the prospect of a worry-free life (34). How easy is it to put that into practice?

Takeaway

What is the main thing each person is taking away from this discussion?

Spend time praying with one another in the light of your discussion.