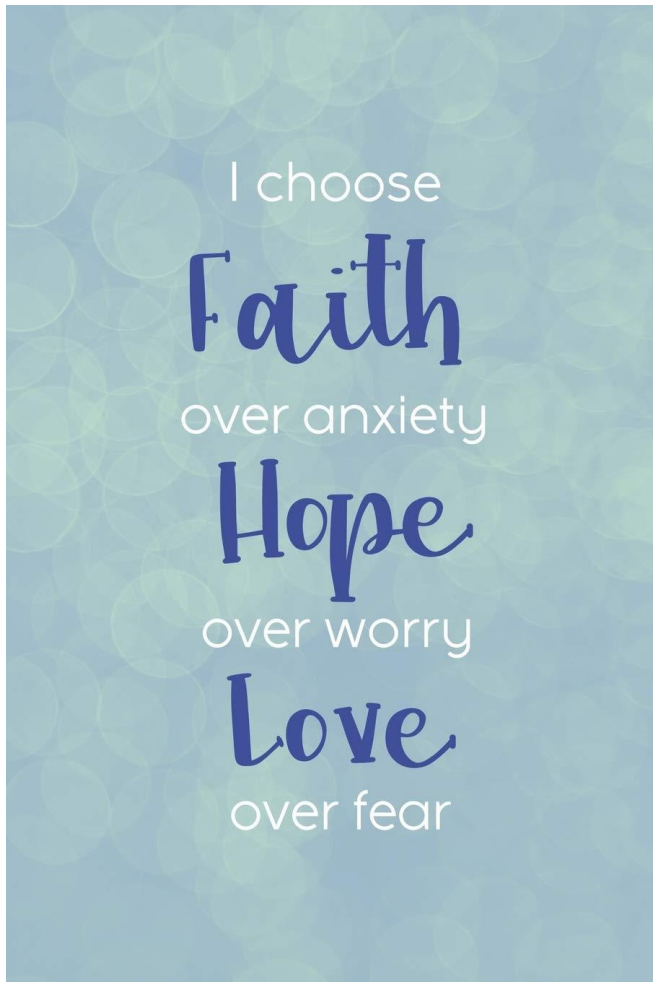


8—Faith Over Worry

Matthew 6:24-34

1. Matthew 6:25 starts out with the phrase “therefore.” What is the word “therefore” there for? How are his words in verse 25 connected to His prior statements (6:19-24)?

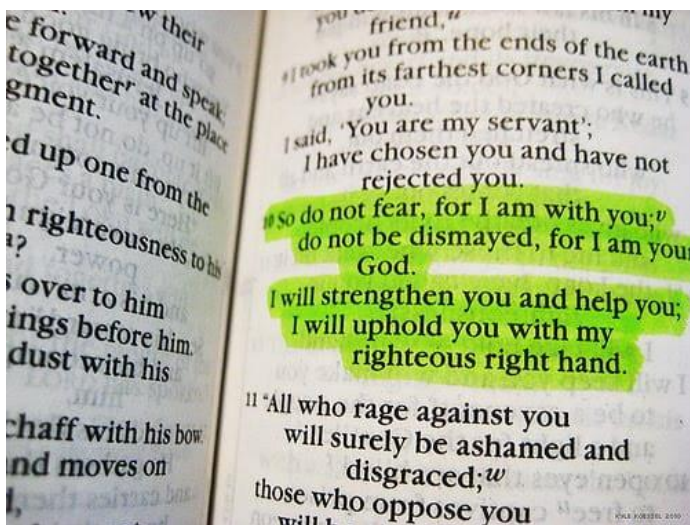


2. What specific items does Jesus mention which often consume us with worry (Matthew 6:25,27,31)? How have you found this to be true in your own life?

3. What two specific illustrations does Jesus use from nature to try and get His audience to have more faith in God’s providential care (Matthew 6:26, 28)?

4. Jesus argues from the “lesser to the greater” and from the “greater to the lesser.” Can you explain how he does so (Matthew 6:26-30)?

5. Jesus refers back to an Old Testament character in verse 29. Who? As we go back to the Old Testament, what incredible things can we learn about Solomon's material wealth (2 Chronicles 1:13-17; 9:3-6, 20-28)? Did Solomon himself feel as though his focus on these material things was worthwhile (see Ecclesiastes 12:13-14)?



6. When we worry, what does it say about our character, our faith, and our understanding about God (Matthew 6:30-32)?

7. What advice does Jesus give to those with worry problems (Matthew 6:33-34)? What other passages of Scripture advise us about properly handling our anxiety and worries?

8. How does putting God first go hand in hand with receiving the "things" we often worry about, as mentioned in verse 33?

9. What have you found personally helpful in your life in dealing with an over-focus on material concerns? What spiritual advice might you give someone else who is drowning in worry?