

**Sunday, October 23, 2016**

“Worry-Free Living”

Doug Kempton

**Key Passages: Luke 12:22-34, 1 John 4:7-19**

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Now would also be a great time to allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday’s message

**Main Ideas**

- This passage (Luke 12:22-34) goes hand in hand with last week (parable of the rich fool).
- Gerald asked us last week, “What is the Good Life?” and how we answer that question determines our inner countenance.
- How we think about “the good life” determines if we live a life of worry or are calm and reassured.
- v22-23: Jesus is talking about our stuff, not the things we have or don’t have, but the place our stuff has in our hearts.
- Jesus’ antidote to worry/anxiety
  - 1) Consider God’s ways
    - worry and anxiety are actually God-given emotions
    - God uses them to draw our attention to something
    - We are then called to invite God into those emotions and **consider** who He is and what He has done.
  - 2) Prioritize the Kingdom
    - V31: Seek = to reach a binding resolution
    - See Matthew 6:33
    - This doesn’t mean that if you seek the Kingdom you will get rich. If you prioritize the Kingdom, you already are.
    - Prioritizing the Kingdom changes our way of thinking
    - EVERY KINGDOM
      - Has a King....Jesus
      - Has people....Every tribe and nation. Reconciliation and Unity (MOSAIC)
      - Has a rule of law....**Generosity**, i.e., time, money, talents (Jesus as the example)
- We have been blessed to be a blessing—to bless with radical love and radical generosity.
- We are our part of love being perfected.
- 1 John 4:7-19: GOD’s LOVE→US→OTHERS but also GOD→OTHERS→US
- This is the Kingdom (exemplified by the early church in Acts 2. People were being added daily.)
- v34: The only way to live a worry free life is to invest in the only thing that matters, the Kingdom of God.

**Questions** (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. How have the last few weeks shaped your definition of the “Good Life”?
2. What consumes your mind? What causes you worry or anxiety?
3. What would it look like to invite God into those things?
4. What does it mean to you to *seek the Kingdom*? (v31)
5. How would your life change if you made a binding resolution to seek the Kingdom? How would it stay the same?
6. How are you doing at living out 1 John 4:7-19? How are you doing in living out the Kingdom of love and radical generosity?
7. How does the idea of losing sleep over God’s Kingdom affect you?
8. What is God inviting you into through this passage/sermon?