

The Vincennes Voice

“...The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight...” (Matt. 3:3)

A teaching bulletin produced and provided by FIRST CITY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Volume 3 ♦ Issue 6 ♦ February 6, 2022

OVERCOMING ANXIOUSNESS AND WORRY

Larry R. Ping II

Every single person struggles with anxiousness and worry from time to time. Jesus realized this and addressed the subject in Matthew 6:25-34. Take notice of the Lord’s way of overcoming these attitudes.

1) Understand Life Is About More Than What We Eat, What We Wear And Where We Live. Jesus instructed, “*Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment” (Matt. 6:25)? Food, clothing, and housing are important, but not as vital as obtaining and maintaining a relationship with God. That always comes first!*

2) Understand We Are Very Important To God. God’s Son said, “*Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than*

they” (Matt. 6:26)? Again the Lord iterated, “*And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin*” (Matt. 6:28). God ensured these animals and plants were well-cared for. We are vastly more important than these, and God will be sure we are well-cared for as well. Do you believe so?

3) Understand Worry And Anxiousness Will Stunt Our Spiritual Growth. The Lord asked, “*Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature” (Matt. 6:27)? We are commanded to be growing (I Pet. 2:2; II Pet. 3:18)! By worrying about the necessities of life, and not trusting God, we will stunt our spiritual growth. May we do as the Apostle commands, “*Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God*” (Php. 4:6).*

4) Understand God Knows Of Our Needs. The

Bible states, “*for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things” (Matt. 6:32). In other words, He needs no reminding. The Psalmist recorded, “*I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread*” (Psa. 37:25). Impressive, right?*

5) Understand Putting God First Is Critical. It is simply stated, “*But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you” (Matt. 6:33). When God is put first, all other things will simply fall into their places.*

6) Understand Living One Day At A Time Is Key. Matthew reports, “*Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof” (Matt. 6:34). There is no reason to borrow anxiety from tomorrow. Most of the time, such trouble does not come anyway!*

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT MARRIAGE

Larry R. Ping II

February often is associated with love and marriage. In a world filled with folks who like to do things their own way, a look to God's Word is needed regarding the subject of love and marriage.

1) Marriage Is Ordained Of God. Moses wrote, *"It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him"* (Gen. 2:18). God would perform Divine surgery and from man's rib produced a woman. He proceeded to articulate, *"Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh"* (Gen. 2:24). God's plan for marriage has always been one man for one woman for one lifetime. Jesus confirmed this in Matthew 19:5-6, as did Paul in Ephesians 5:31. May we never be one who tampers with God's plans and ways (Isa. 55:8-9)!

2) Marriage Requires A Man And A Woman. Society today has attempted to legitimize marriage between members of the same gender.

Even courts of the land have said it is so. Nevertheless, God's Word reigns supreme on the subject. Jesus made it clear when He asked, *"Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female"* (Matt. 19:4)? Marriage is between a "male" and a "female." To define it as any other way is profane.

3) Marriage Is Optional, Not Obligatory. Paul made this abundantly clear in his writings. For instance he said, *"For I would that all men were even as I myself"* (I Cor. 7:7). That is, single. In such a situation, one could devote more time to the Lord. Paul warned, however, *"to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband"* (I Cor. 7:2).

4) Marriage Requires Love. Without it, the union would quickly wither. Younger women are to be taught how *"to love their husbands"* (Tit. 2:4). Husbands are to *"love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it"* (Eph. 5:25).

Husbands are further admonished to *"love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself"* (Eph. 5:28). Love is a two-way street intended to bring bliss and happiness to a marriage. Of this love Paul wrote, *"Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends"* (I Cor. 13:4-8). Be sure you are doing your part!

5) Marriage Requires Hard And Diligent Work. The Holy Spirit indicated unity requires *"endeavoring"* (Eph. 4:3). The Psalmist declared, *"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity"* (Psa. 133:1). Unity in marriage requires hard work and determination, too. But with that work comes great pleasure and happiness. This calls upon each party to shun selfishness, and champion selflessness. This calls upon each party to compromise where they can and should. Am I? Are you?

FIRST CITY CHURCH OF CHRIST

MEETING AT HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS

2720 Battery Road, Vincennes, IN 47591

MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 672
Vincennes, IN 47591

Phone: 317.308.8288

Website: www.firstcitychurchofchrist.com

Email: firstcitychurchofchrist@gmail.com

MEETING TIMES (EST)

SUNDAY

Bible Study – 10:00 am

Worship – 11:00 am & 3:00 pm

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study – 7:00 pm