

Living With Uncertainty

"I, I am he that comforts you; who are you that you are afraid of man who dies, of the son of man who is made like grass, and have forgotten the LORD, your Maker, who stretched out the heavens and laid the foundations of the earth, and fear continually all the day because of the fury of the oppressor, when he sets himself to destroy? And where is the fury of the oppressor?" Isaiah 51.12-13.

We live in an uncertain world. See Proverbs 27.1, Luke 12.16-21 and James 4.13-17. These verses and many others tell us that we ultimately have no control over the future. It is not wrong to plan and prepare, but we do so knowing that God alone holds our tomorrow in His care, and our time in this world is ever subject to His plans and His provisions. But remember this, even as Isaiah told the people of his day, as they faced a real threat of uncertainty, He is God, and you are his child. What God does and allows He does because of His love for the world, and you as His child. John 3.16, Psalm 85.7, Psalm 90.12-17, Romans 8.35-37, 1 John 3.1. There are many more such texts.

Therefore it is wrong to worry!

It is wrong to worry because it is an insult to the Lord.

Worry in the face of God's plain word is doubt, and doubt is a lack of faith and whatsoever is not of faith is Romans 14.23 Also look up Hebrews 3.12 and for encouragement Matthew 14.22-33. When God gives you His word and you worry about what God has said He will take into His care, it is an insult to Him to by your actions, call Him a liar and fail to trust Him. This is sin. Therefore when a problem turns up, hurry to your place of prayer, lay the matter before Him and turn to His word. Let Him speak to you from His word. Then keep

good fellowship with your Lord.

It is wrong to worry because it injures our health.

Many health professionals will tell you that illness of all kinds including the killers come to a body weakened by consistent lack of exercise, poor diet and stress. Worry is very stressful to the human heart. Persistent gnawing anxiety is like carrying a ton weight on your back all day. It is exhausting. It puts lines on your face and turns your hair gray. It dulls your brain and damages your body. More than that it puts a barrier between you and God and strains family relationships. It cripples your Christian walk. Here is a prescription for worry from Dr. Paul: Philippians 4.6&7. Take a large

dose every morning, then a sip when needed throughout the day. Upon retiring take another large dose. Repeat as long as necessary to stay on track. It is definitely habit forming. (In the best possible way.)

It is wrong to worry because it is detrimental to others.

As Christians we are believers. What if the world looks on and sees us full of unbelief. On the other hand if the world sees us in the midst of turmoil and strife, yet we are calm and our life quietly speaks of a confidence in God, what a witness this is even if we are unable to tell our story. Look up 2 Corinthians 3.2&3. Then think soberly on Isaiah 30.5. Is it true of you? What are your actions saying that differ from your words?

It is wrong to worry because it achieves nothing.

There is nothing to be gained by worry itself. This does not mean that we do nothing about the problem. Rather than worry, we should spend our energy prayerfully studying the problem to take action to overcome it.

It is wrong to worry because nothing can happen that God has not allowed.

You already know Romans 8.28. See also Genesis 50.20, Deuteronomy 8.16, Psalm 46.1&2, Jeremiah 24.5, 2 Corinthians 4.15-17, Philippians 1.19&20 and 1 Peter 5.10. Do you believe these things? This knowledge should give you confidence in God in the day of uncertainty.

It is wrong to worry because God has an answer for every situation.

When you are in a fix know that the Lord has already prepared the answers, in fact He did this before the world as created. See Jeremiah 33.1-3, Isaiah 65.24, Ephesians 3.20, Psalm 25.14 and Isaiah 45.1-4. God does not do this for a selected few, it is His way of doing things and is true for all His creation, including you. He has placed the answer to your problems somewhere in your situation. See Exodus 15.22-27.

It is wrong to worry because if the 'worst' should happen, God's grace will be sufficient.

Look up 2 Corinthians 12.8&9 again and put a circle around the word sufficient. Not all our prayers will be answered in the way we at first want, sometimes He does allow us to go through the fire.

It is wrong to worry because nothing can ever separate you from the love of God.

See Romans 8.31-39. In times of ill health, situations of personal risk and just the routine of daily life, this passage of Scripture is of immense comfort. Just to know that we are predestined in Christ Jesus and thus encircled by His love and protection all the way to glory

It is wrong to worry because we have all the promises of God.

And although we have touched on this theme in this study, it will, God Willing be the topic of our next study.

Welcome

Glen Park Gospel Church

Lower Road, Eltham North

Sundays 10.30 am

These notes may be reproduced in part or in full when distributed without cost, if the words

'Used by Permission, Glen Park Gospel Church.' is included

Visit us at glenparkgospel.org.au