

GOD IS SUFFICIENT AND WE CAN TRUST HIM WITH TODAY AND TOMORROW

YEAR: TRANSFORM / FOCUS: I AM GROWING
SERIES: GOD IS THE TREASURE - I AM BANKRUPT

BIG TRUTH: GOD IS SUFFICIENT AND WE CAN TRUST HIM WITH TODAY AND TOMORROW

Psalm 145:16; 1 Chronicles 29:10-13; Matthew 16:15-18; Romans 8:31-39; Philippians 4:4-7

BIBLE VERSE: MATTHEW 6:33-34

"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

BIG IDEAS

- God cares for His children.
- Anxiety loses its power when we walk by faith.
- When we live for God's kingdom, we can live confidently because God's kingdom is secure.

BIBLE PASSAGE: MATTHEW 6:25-34

TRANSFORM - I AM GROWING

The Transform Year is an exploration of what it means to become a "new creation" in Jesus. (2 Corinthians 5:17) In order for this to happen, we must first find our identity in Him. Many of us live in a consistent state of identity crises. We wrestle with questions like who am I, where do I belong, why do I exist? The answer to these questions is found in Jesus. Our prayer for this semester is that like the Apostle Paul we would be able to say, "I have been crucified with Christ, it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me." (Galatians 2:20).



Every student should know that...

- Life, joy, wisdom, and purpose are only found in our treasure, Jesus
- Apart from Jesus we are personally, relationally, and spiritually bankrupt
- The Christian life is about growth not arrival.



Every student should feel...

- Encouraged that Jesus is the treasure our hearts desire
- The depth of their personal and spiritual bankruptcy
- Emboldened to live for God's kingdom alone



Every student should strive to...

- Read the Sermon on the Mount
- Memorize the Bible Verse each week
- Begin practicing some of the basic spiritual disciplines



Every student should want to...

- See the Beatitudes become their attitudes
- Put sin to death and live for God's kingdom
- Pursue Jesus by embracing and practicing spiritual disciplines

GUIDES AND WORKOUTS

The Guide provides a commentary page on each week's Bible verse and on each Big Idea that unpacks the Big Truth. Each week also includes a Student Workout as a resource to help the student pursue spiritual disciplines on their own. Additionally, each week has a Family Workout that helps equip parents and guardians to have spiritual conversations with their student.



Property of Tri-Cities Baptist Church
171 Promise Land Dr. Gray, TN 37615

GOD IS SUFFICIENT AND WE CAN TRUST HIM WITH TODAY AND TOMORROW

BIBLE VERSE: MATTHEW 6:33-34

"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

A Jesus follower's focus should be the kingdom of God.

"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

- Every person who follows Christ has a life change. This life change results in a change of perspective and focus. In Matthew 6:33, Jesus teaches that His followers should seek His kingdom first. They should focus on His glory and pursuing holiness and not focus on acquiring great wealth or material things in this world. Believers do not even have to worry about their daily needs. Jesus promised that if God's children seek His kingdom, He will provide for them and take care of them.
- When a believer focuses on the kingdom of God, he or she lives in unity with other believers. Their lives are not marked by worry, fear, or anxiety. Instead, they are focused on the coming life in eternity with Christ and this brings peace in any situation. Seeking God's kingdom means focusing on God, His glory, and His purpose for His people, and submitting our lives to that end.

A Jesus follower's trust should be in the Lord.

"Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow,"

- When a believer seeks the kingdom of God, he or she will experience the trustworthiness of God firsthand. God never changes and can always be trusted. When He says that He will take care of His children, believers can trust that He will. This drives away worry and anxiety and leaves peace and trust in its place. We do not have to be anxious because we believe that our Father knows what is best for us.

A Jesus follower does not have to fear tomorrow, because God is sufficient.

"for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

- Jesus reminds us that when we trust in the Lord and focus on living for His kingdom, we do not have to fear what comes next in our lives. This does not mean that we will automatically get everything that we want to keep us comfortable in life, but it means that God is sufficient and in Him we have everything we need to faithfully live for His purposes.
- In Christ, our priorities change because our lives have been changed. Our goal is not to store up earthly treasures such as money, possessions, or relationships so that tomorrow is a good day, but our goal is to pursue Christ and His righteousness. When this is true of us, we will have a peace about our future because we know that He is sufficient for our life and our joy.

GOD IS SUFFICIENT AND WE CAN TRUST HIM WITH TODAY AND TOMORROW

BIG IDEA #1: GOD CARES FOR HIS CHILDREN.¹

[THIS]

God is the Creator and Sustainer of all things. He is sovereign over all. Everything we have is from Him. Not only does He control everything, but He is always faithful. In Matthew 6:25-26, Jesus points out God's provision in the world. God cares for the birds of the air and the grass in the field. He arrays His creation in beautiful colors and holds all things together. The earth continues to exist because of God. We can look at creation and see God's provision. We can know that He is faithful to care for His created things. Jesus points to creation as a way of showing His listeners God's abundant provision for His children. If He clothes a field in beautiful flowers for the sake of beauty, He will even more so provide for people made in His image.

[THEREFORE]

Read Matthew 6:26. How does God's provision for creation reveal His faithfulness to you?

In Psalm 89:5-8, the psalmist sings a song of praise to God as the Creator. In this song, the psalmist points out that the heavens declare God's glory and he points to creation as an example of God's great faithfulness. In Numbers 23:19 we see that God is always faithful; He is not like us; He remains faithful always. Psalm 145:16 speaks of God's provision for all living things, which points to His faithfulness.

[THIS]

Not only does God provide for all of creation, He provides so much more for people and especially His people. In Matthew 6:25-27, Jesus shows us that God's children of higher value to Him than the rest of creation. People are created in God's image and hold a great value to Him. God values people so much that He sent His only Son to die on the cross for them. God does not withhold any good thing from His children. He gives them their daily bread and blesses them abundantly. God is sovereign and knows what we need. God's provision of our daily bread is not a giving us everything we ever wanted or providing our "best life" here on earth. God cares greatly for His children. He is involved in all aspects of their lives. He shows He cares through His provision of their physical needs and by allowing His children to grow in their knowledge of Him. He is not a God who is distant from His children. He is close to them and cares for their every need.

[THEREFORE]

How does the knowledge that God cares for people more than anything else on earth encourage you to seek Him for provision?

Matthew 7:7-11 teaches us that God hears His children and gives to them as they ask according to His will. John 14:13-14 teaches that God hears us when we ask for things in His name and according to His will. Lastly, John 15:7 shows us that we can be personally involved with God, which reveals His great care for His people and provision for them.

How has God shown His faithfulness through His provision for you?

1 Chronicles 29:12 shows us that all things come from God. He give good gifts to His children and provides for them. Romans 8:14-15 teaches us that all those who are followers of Christ are His children and fellow heirs with His Son, Christ. God provides for His children always.

1. Matthew 6:25-30: God cares for the birds, fields, and His creation; He will care for His children so much more.

GOD IS SUFFICIENT AND WE CAN TRUST HIM WITH TODAY AND TOMORROW

BIG IDEA #2: ANXIETY LOSES ITS POWER WHEN WE WALK BY FAITH.²

[THIS]

Fear and worry are the product of weak faith. In Matthew 6:30-34, Jesus teaches that we do not have to ever wonder if God will take care of us. Fear and worry are not from God, but are part of our old nature. When we live according to our will, worry and fear will be a part of our daily lives. Jesus teaches a different way of living in this world when He reminds people of God's faithfulness to care for His children. Living without worry and fear requires faith in God and His provision. When we take our eyes off of God and forget who He is, doubt enters our hearts and we succumb to anxiety. Our days will always full of plenty of things to worry about if we view life on this earth through eyes that only see this life and not the next to come. When we view our situations through the lens of who God is and what He has promised in His Word, our hearts will rest in Him and this knowledge will drive worry and fear out of our hearts and minds.

[THEREFORE]

How has a weak faith led to a feeling of worry or fear in your life?

In 1 Peter 5:6-8, Peter links a lack of humility with anxiety. When we fail to humble ourselves before God, we will not even think to turn to Him with our troubles, fears, and worries. Matthew 11:28-30 shows us that we can learn from Christ how to live a life of faith that dispels worry and fear. When we fail to follow Christ's example, we will not have great faith, which will lead to a heart of worry and fear about our circumstances.

[THIS]

In order to see this world with a Godly perspective, we need faith. We must first have faith that God exists and then we must believe His Word and follow it. When we do have faith in God and follow His Word, our perspective is not like an unbeliever's perspective. Anxiety loses its power over us when we choose each day to take God at His Word. When we walk by faith in God, we can face any situation because we are armed with the truth of who God is and how He cares for us. We can face various trials and difficult circumstances knowing that God has not changed. Just as He has cared for us in the good times, He will care for us in the difficult times. This is the type of faith that drives anxiety far from our hearts.

[THEREFORE]

Read Matthew 6:34. How can you discipline yourself to trust God for provision for today and not to worry about tomorrow?

Romans 15:13 points us to the truth that God's Holy Spirit fills us with hope. When we are focused on God and being led by His Spirit, we will trust Him for our every need. Psalm 37:4-6 teaches us that when we delight in God, our hearts can be at rest as we trust Him with our every need. Psalm 46:10 shows us that when we still our minds, we find rest from worry and anxiety.

How has your faith kept you from being anxious?

Isaiah 26:3 teaches us that for those who focus on God and have faith in who He is, their minds and hearts are at peace because they trust in Him. Our faith leads us to peace and hope because when we believe God is who He says He is, we know we have nothing to fear.

2. Matthew 6:30-34: God cares for His children and we never have to worry that He will because He shows Himself faithful through His creation.

GOD IS SUFFICIENT AND WE CAN TRUST HIM WITH TODAY AND TOMORROW

BIG IDEA #3: WHEN WE LIVE FOR GOD'S KINGDOM, WE CAN LIVE CONFIDENTLY BECAUSE GOD'S KINGDOM IS SECURE.³

[THIS]

In Matthew 6:33, Jesus teaches that our focus doesn't have to be our daily needs. Instead, we are called to live for God's kingdom. This means that our lives center around pursuing God and fulfilling His purpose for our lives. It means that we join in expanding His kingdom by sharing the Gospel with lost people. When we seek His kingdom, we seek to be holy just like He is holy. When we do this, we can rest knowing that God is taking care of our daily needs. We do not have to worry how we will have food, clothes, or a place to sleep. We can trust that God is going to provide those things in His time. We can confidently live for Him, seeking His kingdom, because we know that He is taking care of the details of our lives.

[THEREFORE]

What are some real fears that you are facing today?

Matthew 6:25-34 reveals some of the fears we may have about our lives. Also, Matthew 10:28-31 teaches us that we may fear things, but God cares so greatly for us.

How does faith in Jesus grow our confidence in God in the face of our fears?

In Ephesians 3:12 reminds us that our faith increases our confidence in God. As we grow in our knowledge of God, we grow in our faith and confidence in Him. We can live boldly. 2 Corinthians 3:12 teaches us that our hope in Christ gives us boldness. God is secure and forever, which means that we can confidently live for Him.

[THIS]

God's kingdom is eternal. Nothing can overcome His kingdom, nor can anything come against God's people. Jesus teaches over and over that God's people are secure in Him. We can have boldness in this life when our focus is God's kingdom. We live boldly for God when we do not fear sharing the gospel. When we trust in God and His kingdom over this world, we will share His truth no matter the consequence. We live confidently when we live a life that exhibits holiness. We have this confidence because God's kingdom is secure. It is never going to end. We can trust our investment in it will be eternal.

[THEREFORE]

Read Matthew 6:33. What does it look like to seek God's kingdom first?

In Matthew 7:24-27, Jesus teaches that a person who seeks God's kingdom first has built the foundation of their faith upon Him. James 4:8 shows us that seeking God's kingdom requires a repentance of sin and a right standing with God. Psalm 119: 2-3 also teaches us the connection between a humble, repentant heart and seeking the kingdom of God.

Practically, how has living for God's kingdom in the past given you greater boldness in your faith today?

Romans 8:31-39 reminds us of the confidence we can have in God and His kingdom. We can live with great boldness when we live for His kingdom because He fights for His people and gives them power to overcome the evil of this world. Proverbs 28:1 teaches us that when we are righteous, we have no reason to fear or flee. Part of being righteous is seeking God's kingdom first and trusting God with every aspect of our lives.

3. Matthew 6:33: Our focus should only be to seek God's kingdom. When we seek His kingdom first, He takes care of our every need.