



# Blackfoot Church of Christ

Published by Blackfoot Church of Christ  
Blackfoot, ID

Volume 8 Number 7

February 16, 2020

## A Matter Of Trust

Shawn Smith

Jesus declared, “No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and riches” (Matthew 6:24). Cable television mogul Ted Turner once famously said that Christianity, “is a religion for losers.” While Mr. Turner, a former atheist, more recently has been open-minded about religion, prays for sick people, and has even said that he certainly doesn’t want to go to hell, his earlier declaration reflects the thinking of many worldly people.

It comes down to a matter of trust, doesn’t it? You either follow God, trust Him at His word and do what He says, or you follow your own will, trust what this world offers, and do what feels right. Jesus reduced it down to a choice between two things: God or riches. Trust in God leads to peace while trust in riches leads to anxiety. Trust in God leads to service rendered to others while trust in riches leads to self-centeredness. Trust in God leads to lasting satisfaction while trust in riches leads to dissatisfaction and always wanting more. Trust in God produces humility while trust in wealth brings on arrogance. Trust in God leads to certainty while trust in one’s possessions only produces uncertainty.

The apostle Paul complimented Jesus’ teaching when he wrote, “Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy” (1 Timothy 6:17). Examine your heart: Who do you really trust?

## How Can I Deal With Worry And Anxiety?

Hoyt Houchen

Worry is a common problem and no doubt a reason that the Scriptures say so much about it. For example, Jesus taught in Matthew 6:31, "Be not therefore anxious, saying, what shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewith shall we be clothed? For after all these things do the Gentiles seek; for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of these things." This is the conclusion of what Jesus had said in the previous verses about worry, or anxiety. He had shown his disciples that they should trust in God and not uncertainty. The principle is that God will provide the necessities of life if we will place confidence in him. The problem with most of us is that we give more attention to the everyday physical necessities such as food, clothing and shelter than to spiritual matters. Our Lord climaxed his teaching on worry, or anxiety, when he said: "But seek ye first his kingdom, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (v. 33).

Paul admonished his brethren at Philippi: "In nothing be anxious; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, shall guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:7-8).

How do we cope with worry? How do we overcome it? Both in the teaching of Jesus in Matthew 6 and that of Paul in Philippians 4:6-7 is the solution to worry. It is trust God. Most of us make God powerless by supposing that he is not capable of ruling his universe. We take life's situations into our own hands and forget that God has promised to supply our needs.

The basic cause of worry is a lack of faith in the promises of God -- a failure to trust God. Our lack of faith results from not studying the word of God which supplies faith. "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17).

When we trust God we will take our burdens to him in prayer. Hear Paul again: "In nothing be anxious; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God" (Philippians 4:6). The idea is to let the things we seek be made known to God. Thanksgiving should accompany our requests -- not only for the many blessings which our Heavenly Father has already bestowed upon us, but for

the very privilege of being able to make our requests known. He is “able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think” (Ephesians 3:20). We all need to stop this foolishness of worrying ourselves into nervous wrecks and remember that God is on his throne; he is capable of running his affairs; he is always accessible, and he never becomes weary from our requests. When we trust in God and believe his precious promises, we will go to him in prayer. This relieves us of worry, thus giving us “the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding” (Philippians 4:7). In place of being ruled by fear, worry and anxiety, our hearts and our thoughts will be guarded by “the peace of God.” This peace is another of the great promises which God will keep, if we will but trust him. Jesus told his apostles: “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be fearful” (John 14:27). Let us trust God, go to Him in prayer and believe that his promises are true. It is only when we do these things that we can deal with worry, anxiety.

## **Understanding and a Calm Spirit #1396**

by swordtips

He who has knowledge spares his words, and a man of understanding is of a calm spirit. (Proverbs 17:27, NKJV)

Hearts are disquieted by uncertainty and doubt. When His apostles’ hearts were troubled, Jesus calmed them with assuring words of truth that shored up their faith (John 14:1-11). Understanding God’s word is a divinely given resource to combat the anxious mind. Faith in Christ and His word leads us to a place of contentment, reassurance and hope in the face of life’s storms. On the other hand, multiplying our own words without knowledge feeds pride but fails to soothe the soul (Job 35:9-16; 38:2). Our spirit is calmed when our faith is informed by God’s word. Whatever uncertainty you face, seek God’s answers in the Bible. Understanding God’s word can calm your spirit as you put your trust in what He says. If your spirit is troubled, spend time with God’s word and gain understanding.

## Prayer Requests & Announcements

- Porters are be traveling this week
- Carla, Brenda's Cousin is recovering in the hospital from a fractured pelvis
- Sylvia Ward, Ross's Mom, continues to improve
- Scott Boucher (Sparks NV) cancer treatment have not been successful
- Keep April in your prayers as she deals with health issues
- The Christians in the Philippines

**For prayer requests, call or text**

Chad @ (208) 221-2587 or Ross @ (208) 680-6590

## Worship Assignments

### Today

**Song Leader** – Chad Mitchell

**Lord's Table** – Ray Mitchell

### Wednesday

**Song Leader** – Ross Ward

**Invitation** – Ben Palmer

Blackfoot Church of Christ  
370 North Shilling Ave.  
Blackfoot, Idaho 83221

### Meeting Times:

Sunday Morning Classes 10:00AM

Sunday Morning Worship 11:00AM

Wednesday Evening 7:30PM



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