

## Questions for Reflective Study

“Kingdom Seeking” – Pastor Victor Borchard

Jan 22-23, 2022

“Kingdom Seeking,” from Luke 12:22-31.

Here’s the big idea... Jesus helps us with our anxiety by calling us to trust our faithful Father And to seek his kingdom.

It’s been said that a text of scripture without a context is just a pretext. Along those lines, take a moment to read aloud the surrounding context, Luke 12:13-21 & Luke 12:32-34. What’s the topic that both passages share?

How does this context of greed and generosity help us to understand Luke 12:31,

Kingdom Seeking: Mine or His?

Only two choices on the shelf: Serving God or serving self.

What helps you choose to serve God with your life instead of living a self-serving life?

Can you think of someone that’s been a good example to you of generosity?

Victor has adapted a quote from Warren Wiersbeon about wealth with these words...

Wealth: Thank God for the enjoyment of it & Seek God for the employment of it.

What do you like or dislike about that quote?

It’s possible that we’re not very good at either of those things. How can we grow in thanking God for our wealth?

How can we grow in seeking God for how he would have us use it?

Read Luke 12:22-31

**Jesus helps us with our anxiety, 22-23...**

What are some things that we see to worry about the very most? Right now?

Has Jesus helped you with your anxiety?

If so, write about it.

If not, share with someone that struggle.

**...by calling us to trust our faithful father, 24-28...**

- i. Where do you see our Father’s faithfulness in these verses?
  
- ii. How does it help us to consider the ravens and the lilies?
  
- iii. Where else do we see God demonstrating his faithfulness through creation?

What are you worried about?

A helpful practice is to find a promise in the Bible for every worry of the heart. Here's a head start...

Finding a promise for the problem.

Adapted by Victor Borchard from Max Lucado's *Unshakable Hope: Building Lives on the Promises of God*. 2018.

For all our problems / worries, God has a promise.

Identity: We are created in the image of God. (Gen. 1:26)

Opposition and attacks: Satan's days are numbered. (Rom. 16:20)

Strength and resources: We are heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ. (Rom. 8:17) Circumstances: Your prayers have power. (Jam. 5:16)

Position in life: God gives grace to the humble. (1 Pe. 5:5)

Weaknesses: God, through Jesus, understands our weaknesses. (Heb. 4:15)

Discouragement and loneliness: Christ intercedes for us. (Rom. 8:34)

Guilt: There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. (Rom. 8:1)

Death and loss: Death has been swallowed up in victory. (1 Cor. 15:54)

Sorrow: Sorrow is temporary, but joy is coming. (Psa. 30:5)

Powerlessness: The Holy Spirit gives us power. (Acts 1:8)

Injustice: God has set a day of judgment for all. (Acts 17:31)

In addition to thinking about the promises of God for our worries, it can also be helpful to consider *who* we are and *whose* we are. In this passage we see that we are...

Children in His family, Luke 12:30.

Servants in His kingdom, Luke 12:31.

Sheep in His flock, Luke 12:32.

How do each of these images help us worry less and trust more?

### **...and to seek his kingdom, 29-31.**

In this sermon series for the New Year, we've been thinking about Kingdom Rhythms: Three ways to live for God's kingdom.

1. Worship.
2. Fellowship.
3. Service.

How might each of these practices help us to seek God's kingdom?

Looking back. Getting very practical and a little bit accountable, ask yourself these questions:

How regularly did you attend weekend worship services in 2021? Weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, quarterly?

How would you describe your involvement in Life Groups or Bible studies in 2021?

What was your volunteer service like in 2021?

Looking ahead. Dr. Victor prescribes something like this for each of us in 2022:

1. Worship: 90 minutes weekly in a weekend service.
2. Fellowship: 90 minutes weekly in a Life Group or Bible study.
3. Service: 90 minutes weekly volunteering on a ministry team.

What do you think about using 4.5 hours each week in those ways?

Does it seem like this might help us seek God's kingdom?

It might not be wise for someone to go from the couch to the New York City marathon overnight. But every marathon starts with a single step.

What's your next step?

Between now and Easter, what might you try with worship, fellowship, or service?

It just might help us worry less, trust more and seek his kingdom. Jesus helps us with our anxiety By calling us to trust God, and to seek his kingdom instead of our own.