

Week 6: In Control of the Kingdom

Read Matthew 6:25-34.

Our Intentions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are the people in this passage worried about?• In verse 32, Jesus says that the pagans run after “all these things.” What are “all these things?”• What are things that you worry about?• Why do we worry?
God’s Idea	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What do we learn about God as he takes care of his creation (birds, flowers and his people)?• How have you seen God provide for you?• Read Exodus 34:6-7. What do these verses teach about God’s character?• Read Matthew 6:8. How does this verse relate to our current passage?
Social Media’s Influence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Where do we see connections between worry and our social media usage?• In times when we feel anxious or uncomfortable, it is easy to pull out our cell phones and start scrolling through our social media feeds. Why do people do that?• How does social media make us feel in control?
Kingdom Intersection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In verse 33, Jesus says to seek first the kingdom and his righteousness. To seek the kingdom is to align ourselves with his heart, plan and vision for the world. How do we seek first the kingdom and his righteousness?• Read Matthew 8:23-27. What does Jesus model for us when it comes to encountering a stressful situation?• What peace do we find in a relationship with Christ?
Implications for Us	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read Philippians 4:6-7. What is God asking us to do with our worry?• Read Proverbs 3:5-6. How do we trust God with all of our hearts? How do we acknowledge him in all of our ways?• How do we practically build our faith when we’re worried? (tangible practices)

Heart of the Matter: *The Lord is trustworthy and knows what you need before you need it. Bring your heart to Him, surrender control and trust Him for the outcome.*