

Seek First the Kingdom of GOD and His Righteousness

Text: Matthew 6:33-34 (NASB)

³³ "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided to you.

³⁴ "So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Matthew chapter 6 is part of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, focusing on genuine religious motives, heavenly priorities, and trusting God for daily needs. It covers three main spiritual practices, motives in religious practices, the correct view of wealth, and a command against worry.

Motives in Religious Practices (Verses 1–18):

- ✓ Giving to the Needy (v. 1–4): Do acts of charity in secret rather than showing off for human praise; God rewards what is done privately.
- ✓ The Model for Prayer (v. 5–15): Pray in private without empty words, using the Lord's Prayer ("Our Father") as a guide for reverence, provision, and forgiveness.
- ✓ Fasting (v. 16–18): Fast quietly with a normal appearance to please God rather than looking sad to impress people.

Treasures and Wealth (Verses 19–24):

- ✓ Earthly vs. Heavenly Treasures (v. 19–21): Store up treasures in heaven where they last, instead of on earth where things decay or get stolen.
- ✓ The Lamp of the Body (v. 22–23): Keep your focus clear and healthy so your whole life is full of light.
- ✓ Two Masters (v. 24): You cannot serve both God and money; you must choose one.

Overcoming Anxiety (Verses 25–34):

- ✓ Do Not Worry (v. 25–30): Trust God to provide for basic needs like food and clothing by looking at how He feeds the birds and clothes the wildflowers.
- ✓ Seek First His Kingdom (v. 31–34): Put God's kingdom and righteousness first, and He will take care of your daily worries, one day at a time.

HOW TO OVERCOME ANXIETY

1) Attend Every Assembly of the Church ~ Hebrews 10:24-26 (NASB)

²⁴ and let's consider how to encourage one another in love and good deeds,

²⁵ not abandoning our own meeting together, as is the habit of some people, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

²⁶ For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,

2) Expand Your Prayer Life ~ I Thessalonians 5:17 (NASB)

pray without ceasing

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3) Spend More Time in Studying God's Word ~ I Timothy 4:15-16 (NASB)

¹⁵ Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all. ¹⁶ Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

4) Focus on Using Your Spiritual Gift to Grow the Church ~ I Corinthians 12:7 (NLT)

A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other.

5) Seek the Lost ~ Luke 19:10 (NASB)

"For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

RESPONSE TO THE INVITATION OF FAITH:

1. HEAR the GOSPEL ~ Romans 10:17

So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God.

2. BELIEVE ~ Hebrews 11:6

But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he that cometh to God must believe that He is and He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.

3. REPENT ~ Luke 13:3

I tell you nay; but except ye repent ye shall all likewise perish.

4. CONFESS ~ Matthew 10:32-33

Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.

5. BE BAPTIZED ~ Acts 22:16

And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

6. BE FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH ~ Revelation 2:10

Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.