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## Don't Worry About A Thang!



Dear Friend

Let us look at what Jesus said about living a worry-free life. **Matthew 6:25-33** says: *"Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?". "So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."*

Jesus gives us a divine instruction in **Matthew 6:25**. He says, *"Do not worry about your life."* Jesus didn't say this would be a good idea if you could do it. He didn't say I suggest you do it. No, He said, **"Do not worry."** The divine imperatives in the Word of God are always for our benefit and we have it in our grasp to obey them. Think about it, why would the Lord command you to do something that he fully knew in His wisdom you couldn't do? That would be unkind, wouldn't it? God knows very well that we can live this worry-free life. This is an awesome truth. Jesus then says: *"Look at the birds, they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, yet your heavenly father feeds them, are you not more valuable than they?"* This piece of scripture is loaded with revelation. First of all, the birds are not productive like us and they do not have barns or storehouses to store their food, YET God feeds them daily. If the birds can be sure to receive their daily food tomorrow without seeing it in their barns, we can also be assured that God will look after us daily. It's called faith. You may ask, faith in what? Faith in the next key statement that Jesus makes: "your heavenly father." Interestingly, Jesus doesn't say, "your God." He uses the word "father". This is a powerful revelation. God is not just a deity in heaven disconnected from you; He is your father. This word connotes relationship and for us a covenant relationship. The birds can't claim God as their father; they can't claim to have a covenant with God. Yet you and I can. God is my father. God is your father and He is not an irresponsible father. The word father in the Greek is pater, which means nourisher, protector and provider. To worry is to lack this revelation or to doubt God's ability to be a good father.

In **Luke 15**, Jesus shares a parable commonly known as the parable of the prodigal son. This is the heading that the translators felt could describe the story. However, we believe, a more appropriate heading to the story would be "The story of a good good father." We use the word good twice because that is how extravagantly good our heavenly Father is, even as depicted in this story. In the story, the son kept pushing the envelope:

1. He asked for an inheritance while his father was still alive, which was unlawful and rude.
2. He joined himself to the foreign citizens of that land while wasting his inheritance.
3. When he had squandered all of his inheritance, he got a job looking after pigs, not cows or sheep. This was the job for the worst of the worst.
4. He lived in the pigsty and almost ate pig food.

**Luke 15: 7-24** says *"But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.'" And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.' "But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry, for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry."* The son came to his senses at the realisation that he had a good father. This story is a picture of our heavenly Father's extravagant, reckless love for us. When this revelation (that God is a good Father), comes alive in you, it defeats all worry and anxiety. God is a loving, caring Father and He will look after you. Jesus concludes the subject of living a worry-free life in Matthew 6:33. In this verse, He said instead of worrying we should *"seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."* Beloved, while we are seeking after God and the things of God, all these things that people worry about will be added to us supernaturally.

With love,

*Pastors Tafara & Chipo Butayi*

### Faith Hill Church

Faith Hill is a multicultural, family friendly church where all people from all backgrounds are welcome. Our church is led by our Senior Pastors, Tafara and Chipo Butayi. Both of whom are passionate about the Word of God and seeing lives being transformed.



### Prayer for today's devotion

Dear Father

I thank You for Your Word that guarantees me a worry free life. I thank You that You desire that I live a worry free life. I thank You for my life. I thank You that You have already given me everything that I require pertaining to life and godliness. In You, I have everything I need to live a victorious life on this earth.

*(2 Peter 1:3)*

*Father, I trust in You. My confidence is in You. I believe that You will do everything that You promised me that You would do. My life is secure in You. Your Word is forever settled in Heaven, therefore I will keep my focus on it. Your Word is true, noble, just, pure, lovely, full of virtue and is of a good report, therefore I will meditate upon it continually.*

*(Philippians 4:8)*

*I choose to let Your peace rule my heart. Your peace is the umpire of my soul and it determines how I react to the negative situations that I may face in this life. I will prioritise Your Kingdom above all else and You will take care of all my needs as I do. I will not concern myself with what other people think of me as I know that You are well pleased with me.*

*(1 Corinthians 4:3-4)*

*In Jesus' name I pray,  
Amen*

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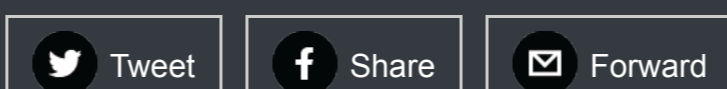
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