

OUTLINE
‘Don’t Worry, Be Happy’
Broomfield United Church of Christ
July 31, 2022

-Don’t worry about the world coming to an end today. It is already tomorrow in Australia.
~Charles M. Schulz ~creator of the comic strip Peanuts (which featured the characters Charlie Brown and Snoopy).

Eugene Petersen “The Message”
Luke 12:22-34

“Don’t fuss about what’s on the table at mealtimes or if the clothes in your closet are in fashion. There is far more to your inner life than the food you put in your stomach, more to your outer appearance than the clothes you hang on your body. Look at the ravens, free and unfettered, not tied down to a job description, carefree in the care of God. And you count far more.

“Has anyone by fussing before the mirror ever gotten taller by so much as an inch? If fussing can’t even do that, why fuss at all? Walk into the fields and look at the wildflowers. They don’t fuss with their appearance—but have you ever seen color and design quite like it? The ten best-dressed men and women in the country look shabby alongside them. If God gives such attention to the wildflowers, most of them never even seen, don’t you think he’ll attend to you, take pride in you, do his best for you?

“What I’m trying to do here is get you to relax, not be so preoccupied with getting so you can respond to God’s giving. People who don’t know God and the way he works, fuss over these things but you know both God and how he works. Steep yourself in God-reality, God-initiative, God-provisions. You’ll find all your everyday human concerns will be met. Don’t be afraid of missing out. You’re my dearest friends! The Father wants to give you the very kingdom itself.

“Be generous. Give to the poor. Get yourselves a bank that can’t go bankrupt, a bank in heaven far from bank robbers, safe from embezzlers, a bank you can bank on. It’s obvious, isn’t it? The place where your treasure is, is the place you will most want to be, and end up being.

SONG: “Don’t Worry, Be Happy”

-Morning Message Continues:

Psalms 19:14 May the words of my mouth and the meditations of all our hearts be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, our Rock and our Redeemer.

**“Two men looked out from prison bars,
One saw the mud, the other saw stars.”
— Dale Carnegie**

**-“Our worry does not come from thinking about the future, but from wanting to control it.”
~ Khalil Gibran.**

-In all of Scripture in the most common command is: do not be afraid. The simple truth of man is no matter when they live, where they are, or where they come from people are slaves to their fears. Fear dictates the decisions we make and things we do.

-Worry is a like a rollercoaster, it gives you something to do but it doesn't get you anywhere. It is a waste of time. Most of the things we worry about we have no power to change anyway so what is the point? Worry doesn't add to life it takes away from it. Do people who worry more get further in life, no? Well, *perhaps they do go bald faster.*

-Most people let their fears run their lives. Too often we fail to do what Jesus calls us to do because we are afraid. We are afraid to invest. We are afraid to step up. We are afraid to be different from the world. Jesus invites us to stop being afraid. God is a Father and He loves His children. He cares for you no matter what happens in your life.

-I have spent nearly forty years of my life trying to help others overcome worry and fear, anxiety and feeling overwhelmed. (Talk about my work as a psychologist in treating these symptoms. Talk about how our thoughts determine how we feel, not what actually happens or doesn't).

If you ask what is the single most important key to longevity, I would have to say it is avoiding worry, stress and tension. And if you didn't ask me, I'd still have to say it anyway. ~George Burns

“Today is our most precious possession. It is our only sure possession.”

Henry Ford- if he ever worried, he replied: "No. I believe God is managing affairs and that He doesn't need any advice from me. With God in charge, I believe that every-thing will work out for the best in the end.

May God bless these words to our understanding.

Scripture for July 31, 2022
Broomfield United Church

Luke 12:22 Then Jesus said to his disciples: "Therefore I tell you, do not *worry* about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear.

23 Life is more than food, and the body more than clothes.

24 Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds!

25 Who of you by *worrying* can add a single hour to his life?

26 Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you *worry* about the rest?

27 "Consider how the lilies grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these.

28 If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you, *O you of little faith!*

29 And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not *worry* about it.

30 For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them.

31 But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

32 "Do not be *afraid*, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom.

33 Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will not be exhausted, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys.

34 *For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

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