

"You don 't have to know everything God is doing in your life. You just have to trust Him."

[Henry Blackaby]

ENGAGE & CONNECT

What's the funniest or most creative excuse you've ever made to avoid doing something you knew you should do?

BEGIN WITH PRAYER

Spend a moment praying this passage, beginning your time together in humility and gratitude!

"Trust in the Lord and do what is good; dwell in the land and live securely. Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you your heart's desires. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act." [Psalm 37:3-5]

BIG IDEA

Be obedient where you are and trust God to lead you where He wants you to go!

PASSAGE & DISCUSSION

Matthew 6:25:34

- 1. Which example that Jesus used in this passage about worry challenges or encourages you? What other examples come to mind that could illustrate this?
- 2. What does Jesus mean when He says, "Isn't life more than food and the body more than clothing?" What tension does that create inside of you?
- 3. According to v. 33, what should the believer's priority be? What promise is attached to that priority?
- 4. Comparison, pleasure, and distraction can be threats to our spiritual presence with the Lord. Which of these affects you the most today? How does that affect you?
- 5. How does our misplaced focus on "tomorrow" affect our ability to be present with others and God today?
- 6. Why is being present a spiritual discipline, not just a personality trait we can say we do or don't have?
- 7. What desire in your life right now distracts you from focusing on God's presence and provision?

- 8. What could it look like for you to obey God "with everything you know" today, even if you don't have answers for tomorrow?
- 9. What practices can we build into our group life that help us be present—with God, each other, and our mission?

STEP OF OBEDIENCE

Jesus addresses a root issue in our spiritual lives—worry about the future. He compassionately and lovingly redirects our attention to the **faithfulness of God today**, inviting us to seek His kingdom and righteousness above all else. We can choose to be present, a life tool for spiritual freedom and purpose. God isn't asking us to figure out tomorrow; He's asking us to **obey today**. When we trust Him moment by moment, we discover joy, peace, and provision in surprising ways!

As you consider your next step, here are two questions to reflect on: 1) How is comparison stealing my joy and blinding me to God's provision today? 2) What area is the Holy Spirit prompting me to obey in—even without all the answers?

Possible Next Steps of Faith

- 1. Each morning this week pray: "Lord, help me to be fully present where I am today. Speak, and I will listen."
- 2. Write out Matthew 6:33 and place it where you'll see it daily—reaffirming your commitment to seek His kingdom first.

PRAYER FOCUS

Here I Am, Send Me

Today, let's prayerfully surrender the present to God in obedience and trust Him for the future.

- Your leader will open with this short prayer: "Lord, help us to be faithful right where we are. We offer our work, relationships, waiting, and worries to you today. Lead us where you want us to go, and give us obedient hearts along the way."
- Each person prays these **two short sentences** using this format:
 - "Lord, help me be obedient in _____."
 - "I trust You to lead me in _____."
 - If you prefer not to pray aloud, silently offer your prayer to God when it's your turn.
- After everyone has prayed, the whole group says this declaration together: "God, we are yours—today and tomorrow. Help us walk in faith, step by step. Amen."

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- <u>Matthew Ch. 6 Commentary & Do Not Worry</u>
 - \circ ~ Use these for background and encouragement before your group gathers.
- Being Fully Present With God
 - This would be a good resource to use after your group gathers.