

inFLUENCE

What are you worried today?

Matthew 6:25-34

Week 8 of 11

In some parts of my lawn, the grass is thick and green. In other areas, it's sparse and dry. There are even a few places where the grass is missing entirely.

When I mow the lawn, I notice that where the grass is healthy, there are no weeds. Where the lawn is sparse, there are a few. Where there's no grass, the weeds flourish.

Every time I notice the weedy spots, I think, *I really need to pull those things*. So I do, but within a few weeks they're back—and I'm pulling them again. One day it hit me: *I don't have to pull weeds where the grass is thick. Instead of spending all my time pulling weeds, maybe I [need] to invest time making the grass as healthy as possible*. The more grass I had, the fewer weeds I'd have to pull.

The same applies to worry. Worry is like the weeds. God's peace is the grass. Instead of just focusing on eliminating my worries, I [need] to cultivate God's peace. [Mike Bechtle quoted in the October 21, 2008, entry of *Men of Integrity* (September/October 2008)]

This week's daily bible reading will help us gain a better understanding on God's perspective on worrying.



northeast daily reading

July 3 - 4, 2010

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- DAY ONE – Matthew 6:25-34, Luke 12:22-34
- DAY TWO – Psalm 23
- DAY THREE – Matthew 13:1-23 (especially 22)
- DAY FOUR – Luke 10:38-42
- DAY FIVE– 1 Peter 5:6-7, Philippians 4:4-7

Memory Verse:

“But seek first His kingdom and his righteousness,
and all these things will be given to you as well.”

(Matthew 7:33)



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