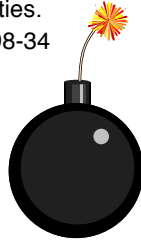


Text: Matthew 6:25-34
Topic: Anxiety. Priorities.
Series: none msg#:98-34

Focal Point Radio Ministries

October 24 & 25, 1998

Pastor Mike



Y2K Mania

A Biblical Perspective



6:25 "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? 26 Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? 27 Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? 28 "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. 29 Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. 30 If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? 31 So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. 33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own. (NIV)

1. Don't _____ (v.25)

2. Remember _____ (vv.26-32)

3. Always _____ (vv.33-34)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message. It is recommended that you take time this week to write out your response to each of these questions. This will help to drive home the point of today's message and will help you apply the principles to your life situation.

1. What information and recommendations have you heard about Y2K before this message?

Which of these suggestions cannot be squared with the straightforward teaching of Matthew 6?

2. What have you learned in your life about setting aside the clear teaching of Scripture in "special circumstances?" Why is a "situational ethics approach" to the Christian life unacceptable?
3. In light of potential problems caused by Y2K, many suggest that Christians should hoard goods, gold, and guns based on Proverbs 22:3. Why does Proverbs 22:9 make such recommendations unfeasible?
4. In light of potential problems caused by Y2K, many suggest that once Christians hoard supplies they should isolate themselves and their families in remote areas. How does isolationism contradict the call for Christians to congregate and function as a community?
5. Though the outcome of Y2K is uncertain, many have suggested remediations that are based on assumptions that are not true. What advice would you give someone who desires to sort out factual predictions from fanciful speculations?
6. Christians are called to trust God for their well-being at all times. Though our physical well-being always takes second place to our spiritual well-being (pinning our hopes on a physical reality much better than this one – 1Cor.15), Christians are never given permission to neglect or abuse ourselves or our families. What are some basic steps for people living in a physically dangerous world (with earthquakes, criminals, and fragile economies) that we can take to give us a head start in ministering to others no matter what the next crisis is?
7. Take a few moments right now to pray that the Christians at your church and around the world will stand as shining examples of a people whose trust is in Christ and who avoid ungodly responses to the speculations and negative prognostications that will continue to abound near the close of the twentieth century.