



Sermon Notes

Term – Jan 2019

Series – Wholeness

Gathering & Date – 5pm 27.01.19

Title – What About Me?

Preacher – Andrew Stansbury

Reading – 1 John 4.7-21 , Matthew 6.25-34

Main message of this talk in one sentence – Being worried about who is looking out for us, what is going to happen to us, how we are going to move forward, where we are going etc... makes Agape impossible.

Self-concern makes it impossible to be fully open to loving others as we will be thinking too much about how it relates to us (others don't do that for me, I couldn't give that much, why should they get that?)

Main points –

There is a process to living free of worry. It isn't a one step wonder treatment, but a journey of God exposing us to things that worry us to bring us to Himself so that we can let go of things. But underneath it all, if we aren't committed to living our life following God (which is what a disciple is) then we will not experience His lifegiving process to worry free living. It is only in giving our life journey over to his direction that Matthew 6 actually becomes applicable. If we don't give leadership of our life to God, then it is on our shoulders!

God doesn't long for us to live worry free just so He can love others through us, it is mainly for us! He wants to learn how to live free from anxiety because it enables us to live in His hand today, not thinking of where we are going, but thinking of who we are with and knowing that we are being taken care of, and will continue to be taken care of.

Worry takes you out of today into tomorrow. Agape is present and today. It leads us today.

Worry is a form of control. It takes ownership of our life away from God. Those who gain try to gain their lives will lose it – if we try to take control of our own journey we will end up being worried and anxious, or our values will be shot – our security will be in our material security which goes to the grave with us.

If we lose our life – give it to God and relinquish ownership and leadership of it, journeying to be free from worry then we will find life.

Worry is a control issue.

For further thought and prayer –

Are you on a journey with God about your worry?

Worry is a form of control – do you realise this and actually want to walk away from it?

Is there dialogue between you and God around the different aspects of your life, even when He has/is disappointing you/not fulfilling your desires in the way you hope for? How are you dealing with this?

What are you worried about?

How is God asking you to take a step forward away from worry towards being fully given to His leadership?