

In vs. 25-34, Jesus commands his followers not to be anxious, for they can change nothing if it's not in God's will for them. The ESV Study Bible makes a good additional point in that it says, "If one makes the right choices, there is no reason that one should be anxious," tying the command about anxiety back to vs. 19-24. It is important to continuously strive to serve God and follow his commands, and when you are continuously seeking his will, he will make a way for what he wants to happen.

Does experiencing poverty signify that someone is not following God's commands? Why or why not?

God knows we need food and clothing. What is he commanding us to do instead of being anxious about these things?

What does God want us to hear? Based on the passage and the questions above, what "takeaways" do you think God has revealed to you?

WHAT DOES GOD WANT US TO DO?

God is not commanding us to never save money or plan for the future. Instead, he instructs his followers to seek him first, to serve God instead of serving money.

Has the Holy Spirit ever directed you to spend your money in a certain way you were not anticipating? If so, what were the circumstances?

Has God ever directed you away from a path in life that could have led to enormous financial success? If so, what did he call on you to do instead?

What does it look like in your mind to choose God over money?

What does God want us to do? Flowing out of our reading and interpretation, what action does this passage or the Spirit's leading, call us to?

WHAT DOES GOD WANT ME TO DO?

Pastor Matt said,

"You can't love God and this world. In other words, you can't morally be in a romantic relationship with two people. Have two lovers. Just like you can't have two masters. It's not going to work."

In what sense, if any, are your interests divided when it comes to trusting God or money?

Quietly reflect: Is there anxiety in your heart about your financial circumstances? How can you go about becoming less anxious and more reliant on God to know what you need?

What does God want ME to do? What is the personal application and action step God is calling you, personally, toward?

