



- _____ and worry cannot dwell together.
- The word “worry” comes from an Anglo-Saxon word that means “to choke or strangle.”
- If you are to build a stronger faith in troubled times, you must overcome worry. But how do you do it?

**First, you must learn to _____ eternally.
vs. 33-34**

- *“If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.” Colossians 3:1-2*
- Our problem is that we think from an _____ viewpoint instead of from an eternal perspective. We pour our lives into things of _____ eternal consequence and it leads to stress and worry.

**Second, you must understand your _____
to God. vs. 6-7, 24**

- If you are saved by God’s grace, you have been placed in the family of God and you are a child of the living God.
- *“For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.” Ephesians 5:30*

- You are no longer an _____ of God, but a child of God. You are **in Christ**, *“accepted in the beloved.”*
- *“Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, Comfort your hearts, and stablish you in every good word and work.”* **2 Thessalonians 2:16-17**

**Third, seeking God must become _____
place in your life. vs. 29-31**

- God wants to see your _____ in love with Him and seeking Him.
- *“I sought the Lord, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.”* **Psalm 34:4**
- Is your heart full of worry and fear? Ask yourself this question: How much _____ did I spend seeking God this past week?

How to Develop a Great Faith

Matthew 8

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- Did you know that Jesus spoke of people with “great faith” and people with “little faith?”
- Every believer can develop a great faith. How do you develop a great faith even when you have little faith?

First, by focusing on _____ instead of your circumstances.

- In Matthew 8, you see two encounters with adverse circumstances.
 - A centurion (military officer) - vs. 5-10
 - The disciples - vs. 23-27
- The centurion is said to have great faith; the disciples are said to have little faith.
- What was the difference? The centurion focused on _____ and mastered the circumstances, while the disciples focused on the _____ and allowed the circumstances to master them.

Second, by truly believing God's _____.

- God's Word will work ____ you when received as God's Word _____ you.
- *"For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe."*
1 Thessalonians 2:13
- But many times, instead of believing God's promises, we _____ . Matthew 16:6-8
- Faith doesn't reason with God's promises, faith trusts and _____ God's promises.

Third, by understanding the _____ of God's commitment to you.

- At salvation you were placed **in Christ**.
- God has _____ all that His Son is, **in you!**
- When you are secure in your relationship with someone, you have faith in that person. As you grow more secure in your relationship with Christ, you will find that your faith will grow incredibly.
- The only way to grow in that security is to _____ God's Word.

BECOMING A CASTING CHRISTIAN

1 PETER 5:5-14

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- Trials and problems are a part of _____. You will never successfully avoid them. But you do have a choice as to how you will _____ to trials.
- What is the right response to our cares, our worries, and our burdens in life? 1 Peter 5:7 holds the key.
- As a Christian, you must learn to cast your cares upon God.
- This text will explain why it is so crucial that every believer become a casting Christian.

First, a casting Christian exhibits a lack of _____. vs. 5-6

- God gives two promises to the humble:
 1. _____
 2. _____
- What does God promise the worrier? Absolutely _____.

Second, a casting Christian actively resists
_____. vs. 8-9

- What do you think is one of Satan's most strategic weapons that he uses to devour people? _____, which leads to _____.
- The word "resist" means "to _____ against, oppose."
- When you take your cares and cast them at God's feet, you are actively resisting the devil.

Third, a casting Christian demonstrates total
_____ in God. vs. 10

- It is so pleasing to God when He sees the _____ of His children fully trusting in Him.
- Even in the trials of life, Paul said that God is working in them so that they will produce a far more _____ weight of glory.
- *"For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal."*

2 Corinthians 4:17-18