© 2020 Character Building Ministries. This sample is for review purposes only.

Week One

Thursday

A Lesson from Wildflowers

And why do you worry about clothes? Observe how the wildflowers of the field grow: They don't labor or spin thread. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was adorned like one of these. If that's how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and thrown into the furnace tomorrow, won't he do much more for you—you of lit¹ faith?

~ M? _:w 6:28-30

Discover the Context Matthew 6:25-34

Why is it important to know who God is? How do you learn about his character? What particular attributes would help you deal with worries you have about the summer?

"I don't worry over the future for I know what Jesus said; so today I'll walk beside him for he knows what is ahead. Many things about tomorrow I don't seem to understand, but I know who holds tomorrow, and I know he holds my hand." ~ Ira Stanphill

Ira Stanphill (1914-1993)

As you read Psalm 62 concentrate on verses 5-8. Notice the assurance of the writer and where his confidence rests. Memorize one of these verses today by writing it on a card and carrying it with you. I was a college senior with no idea what life after graduation would look like. One morning my roommate very insightfully admitted that the future seemed daunting to her because she failed to see that God would be with her in it. She knew his immediate presence but realized she wasn't trusting in his future presence—as if she would be facing the future alone.

In these verses from the Sermon on the Mount Jesus addresses the worry in the hearts of his listeners—worry over what they would wear and what they would eat. He redirects their attention to God's perfect care: If God takes care of grass and wildflowers, don't you think he will take care of you? Not only does God take care of wildflowers, he adorns them with more splendor than the king who built his own temple.

The summer holds much to eagerly anticipate: Who will I meet? What will service to them look like? What will I learn? Eager anticipation can turn to anxious uncertainty if we forget that the God who was with us yesterday and is with us today will also be with us tomorrow. He has brought you and equipped you for his purposes which are infinitely trustworthy and good. If you are tempted to doubt that, take a look at the wildflowers—planted exactly where they are supposed to be and adorned for his glory.

God takes care of us out of his goodness. Our worry or anxiety shows that we don't trust him to be who he has said and shown himself to be. It may also show that we think of ourselves as better equipped than he is to take care of us.

He knows all your needs already and is wise enough, powerful enough, and good enough to take care of them in a way that not only is for your good but also makes you more like him. This is really freeing! You don't have to worry. KIM