



Pastor's Perspective — What to Do with Distracting Concerns

By Dr. Ron D. Lindholm, Senior Pastor

Have you ever had a distracting concern? By “a distracting concern” I mean an issue or a problem that was occupying such time and space in your life that you found it difficult or impossible to focus your attention on anything else—but you already knew that because you’re as familiar with distracting concerns as I am. We’ve all had our experience with distracting concerns.

In 1 Peter 5:7, we are told what we are to do with our distracting concerns, and why. The verse simply says: *Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you.*

Interestingly, the context does not deal directly with the problem of anxiety (distracting concern), but submission—mutual submission to each other as believers in Christ; submission of the younger to the older; and submission of the elder/bishop/pastor to the Chief Shepherd, who is the Lord Jesus Christ. I say “it’s interesting” that a passage that deals with submission talks about the problem of anxiety, but it really shouldn’t surprise us. After all, submission is an act of faith—anxiety is not. Submission is trusting God to direct in our lives and to work out His purposes, in His time—anxiety is not.

Looking at verse 7, the problem of anxiety comes into view along with what we are to do with it and why. We are to take our anxiety (the same word is used here as

in Matthew 6:25, 31, 34; Luke 10:41; and Philippians 4:6) and cast it (the verb “cast” is used only here and Luke 19:35 in the New Testament; in the language of the day, it refers to a decisive casting as when throwing something away or giving it up to another) on the Lord because He cares (the same word is used in Mark 4:38; Luke 10:41; and John 12:6; in the language of the day, the care described in our text is a constant care and concern).

This is a most remarkable and encouraging text. Think about it: Our distracting concerns are a matter of God’s interest and concern. My mind is blown away by the thought!

Now, how does God show His interest and care for us when we give up our anxieties to Him in trustful submission? The Bible reveals that there are at least five wonderful ministries that He performs: 1) He gives us the courage to face our concerns honestly and without running away (Isaiah 41:10); 2) He gives us endurance to persevere in the trouble as long as might be required (James 1:2-4); 3) He gives us the wisdom we need to make good decisions whatever the situation (James 1:5); 4) He gives us the strength we require (Philippians 4:13); and 5) He replaces our anxiety with His all-surpassing peace (Philippians 4:7).

Do you have distracting concerns? Give them up to the Lord. He cares for you and stands ready to help you as you submit to Him.

*Cast all your anxiety on Him
because He cares for you.*

Taking the Time to Say “Thank You, Father”

Amidst the Pilgrim hats and collars, the cornucopias overflowing with artificial flowers and vegetables, and the aroma of pumpkin pies and turkeys, this time of year gives us the opportunity to be thankful for what our God has done in our lives.

We remember the story of that first celebration in 1621, when the Plymouth colonists joined with their life-saving friends, the Wampanoag Indians, for a shared multi-day harvest feast. It had been a very rough year, with at least half of the original group dying, but the Lord had brought help in the form of the Native Americans, who taught them how to adapt to this new environment. Governor William Bradford had sent four men on a “fowling” expedition for the meal, and the guests were recorded as bringing five deer.



In 1863, at the height of the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national Thanksgiving Day to be held in November. While doing so, he beseeched all Americans to ask God to “commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife” and to “heal the wounds of the nation.”

At Fellowship, we have another Thanksgiving tradition! Our Thanksgiving Eve Service is a wonderful time to fellowship together to remember the One Who has blessed us. While enjoying light refreshments, we will share testimonies, read Scripture and sing praises to Him “from Whom all blessings flow.” Come join the celebration of thankfulness.


Quarterly Meetings Scheduled



Two important quarterly meetings for the year occur this month: The Quarterly Business Meeting, November 7, and the Quarterly Missions Prayer Meeting, November 28.

In our quarterly business meeting, we hear reports concerning various areas of church ministry and decide on any matters of business that require our attention. Members are greatly urged to come and participate and encourage one another.

The Quarterly Missions Prayer Meeting is a way for us to truly be involved with the missionaries we support. Dr. Dick Eastman, the international president of Every Home for Christ, once said, "In no other way can the believer become as fully involved with God's work, especially the work of world evangelism, as in intercessory prayer." This prayer meeting is specifically designed to help us do that work of intercessory prayer for the missionaries we have promised to stand beside as they share the Good News of Christ.



November Memory Verse

*Give thanks to the LORD,
call on His name;
make known among the nations
what He has done.
~ Psalm 105:1*

Money Matters

October Giving Per Week (General Fund)	\$5,026
2012 Budgeted Needs Per Week	\$5,105
2012 Budgeted Receipts to Date	\$209,778
2012 Budgeted Needs to Date	\$224,606

Fellowship Baptist Church

5936 Rolling Road
Springfield, VA 22152



Our women packed 50 boxes for Operation Christmas Child this year.

Men's Retreat:



In this year's retreat, missionary Paul Briggs will be developing the theme "Followers Who Lead," based on 1 Corinthians 11:1. As Christians, we need to be following the Lord Jesus Christ fully in the outliving of our lives and encouraging others to do the same — and this is especially true in the case of Christian men (2 Timothy 2:2).

Let's be praying for our men that they would take advantage of the occasion of this retreat and grow mightily in the Lord and in their ability to lead out for Him. The retreat is open to men and young men, high school age and above. The cost is \$80 per person with registration required by November 11. For additional details and to register, see the information table in the foyer.

Calendar

Nov. 7	Quarterly Business Meeting (7:30 PM)
Nov. 9	Women's Ministries Game Night (7:00 PM)
Nov. 10	Church Workday (8:00 AM)
Nov. 13	Nursing Home Ministry (2:00 PM)
Nov. 21	Thanksgiving Eve Service (7:30 PM)
Nov. 28	Missions Prayer Meeting (7:30 PM)
Nov. 30- Dec. 1	Men's Retreat