

Series: A Mirror on the Mount (Term 3: Reflect His Glory)

Message: Clearing the Mirror — Letting Go of Worry to Reflect His Glory

Scripture Focus: Matthew 6:19–34 | Philippians 4:6–9

1. THE CLUTTERED MIRROR

In a world driven by economic pressure, social comparison, and constant uncertainty, anxiety has become the default setting of modern culture.

Jesus closes Matthew 6 by addressing the two greatest cluttering agents of the human heart: **wealth** and **worry**.

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." — **Matthew 6:21**

When our hearts are cluttered with earthly treasures and consumed by anxiety, the mirror of our life becomes smudged. We cannot reflect the peace, confidence, and goodness of God when our eyes are fixed on what we might lose tomorrow.

2. CLEARING THE MIRROR: THREE MOVEMENTS

Movement 1: Clearing Your Treasure (Matthew 6:19–24 & Philippians 4:8)

- **The Posture:** Uncluttering your devotion by holding earthly possessions loosely and refusing to let material security become your anchor. Fix your mind on what is true, honourable, pure, and lovely (**Phil 4:8**).
- **The Promise:** Heavenly treasures never decay (**Matt 6:20**). A "single-eyed," Kingdom-first focus clears away distraction and fills your heart with Christ's light.
- **Plainly Said:** *What you cling to tightly ends up owning you. Store up what moth and rust cannot touch.*

Movement 2: Clearing Your Mind (Matthew 6:25–32 & Philippians 4:6–7)

- **The Posture:** Refusing to let anxiety dictate your daily walk. Turn every worry into a prayer with thanksgiving (**Phil 4:6**), handing your future back over to God.
- **The Promise:** Your Heavenly Father knows what you need (**Matt 6:32**). As you pray, the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, stands guard over your heart and mind like a fortress (**Phil 4:7**).
- **Plainly Said:** *Worrying doesn't fix tomorrow; prayer hands tomorrow over to the One who owns it.*

Movement 3: Seeking First the Kingdom (Matthew 6:33–34 & Philippians 4:9)

- **The Posture:** Placing God's principles and Kingdom priorities ahead of personal anxiety.
- **The Promise:** When you seek His Kingdom and righteousness first, all these practical necessities will be added to you (**Matt 6:33**), and the God of peace will be with you (**Phil 4:9**).
- **Plainly Said:** *Put God's business first, and trust Him to take care of yours.*

3. PERSPECTIVE: DAVID PAWSON ON WORRY & THE LIGHT

In his exposition of the Sermon on the Mount, Bible teacher David Pawson highlights key truths about Matthew 6:

- **Forbidden in the Kingdom:** Jesus spent more time directly forbidding worry in the Sermon on the Mount than almost any other sin.
- **Worry is a "Libel on God":** Worrying is fundamentally an accusation against God's character. It implies that our Heavenly Father cares more about wild birds, pets, and field lilies than He does about His own children.
- **Living Worry-Free is Supernatural:** While anxiety is completely natural for humans, living without worry is supernatural.
- **A Powerful Witness:** In a world overwhelmed by financial stress and uncertainty, a Christian who remains genuinely peaceful and worry-free stands out as a true **light in the world**. God promises to guarantee all His children's daily needs—so we can live with total confidence in His provision.

4. TAKEAWAYS

1. **Identify the Clutter:** Name the top worries or financial anxieties competing for your attention.
2. **Apply the Philippians 4 Formula:** Swap anxious thoughts for prayer and gratitude every time fear rises.
3. **Reflect His Peace:** Recognize that your calm, worry-free trust in God is one of your greatest testimonies to an anxious city.