



6 WEEK SERMON SERIES

Dear Friends,

I am so excited to be entering into this significant sermon and study series with you. I believe you'll find this to be a deeply meaningful "reset" for your Christian experience or, perhaps, the framework you've been seeking to make your discipleship truly central and transforming in your life. Please do all that you can to be present for every one of these messages. Ask God to show you His heart and shape your heart and mine to be more like His. Pray that the LORD will give me words that are truly helpful to YOU.

Rev. Dr. Daniel Meyer | Lead Pastor

THE FIVE FINGERS OF FAITH

Like the five fingers of a hand, there are five movements of faith that God seeks to inspire in us, so that He can use us to LIFT others. Each finger of faith is important.

1. **Following** God where He leads us
2. **Trusting** God's promises with all that we are
3. **Prioritizing** God and His Kingdom above everything
4. **Surrendering** our possessions for the sake of God and His service
5. **Committing** to God's vision and power regardless of our circumstances

JOURNAL your response to the message

Jesus, I feel

about

because

RESPONDING to the message

- TABLE TALK | At a meal this week, discuss this question with those around the table: **Which of the worries from Matthew 6 do you tend to get stuck on most? Why do you think this is?**
- Text, email or post to your small group or social media sites one big idea from this week's message that has stayed with you.
- Prepare for small group by reviewing the related questions.
- Pray this week's breath prayer every day.

● GROUP DISCUSSION

PREPARE

A. Pray together this week's breath prayer.

INHALE | May We Trust You **EXHALE | More Than Our Worries**

B. Share how you completed the journaling prompt at the end of this weekend's worship service.

C. Ice breaker questions: What is something that worried you as a child that is no longer a worry for you? Why do you think that has changed?

RECEIVE

Slowly and prayerfully read or listen to Malachi 3:10–12 & Matthew 6:25-32 twice. Begin and end each reading with a few moments of silence. In the quiet, ask the Holy Spirit to guide you into knowing and living what you are to receive from this passage of Scripture.

REFLECT

1. What are the specific examples of God's promises indicated in today's Bible passages?

2. Why would God ask us to trust Him more than our wealth?

3. How do these passages describe who God is? What aspects of God's character allow His promises to be dependable?

4. There are consequences and ramifications for all our choices, right? So if we do not trust God with our money, what's the consequence of that? How would not trusting God impact your life and faith and relationship with others?

5. How do you think worry is affecting you emotionally, physically and spiritually?

6. From the Matthew passage, what does Jesus want us to understand as we observe nature around us?

7. In light of these passages, what motivates how we value, manage and use our money?

● GROUP DISCUSSION

REFOCUS

Close by praying out loud together Psalm 23 from *The Message* translation.

God, Our shepherd! We don't need a thing.
You have bedded us down in lush meadows,
You find us quiet pools to drink from.
True to Your Word, You let us catch our breath
and send us in the right direction.

Even when the way goes through Death Valley,
We are not afraid because You walk by our side.
Your trusty shepherd's crook makes us feel secure.

You serve us a six-course dinner right in front of our enemies.
You revive our drooping heads; our cups brim with blessing.

Your beauty and love chase after us every day of our lives.
We're back home in the house of God for the rest of our lives.

RESPOND throughout this week by TRUSTING

- Take 5 minutes to sit with God in silence with this request: "God, show me how I can trust You to LIFT others." And then journal what you hear.

- Pray this week’s breath prayer every day.
INHALE | May I Trust You **EXHALE | More Than My Worries**
- Help LIFT others by gently offering this practice of breath prayer to them, as you hear them share their worries.
INHALE | May _____ Trust You
EXHALE | More Than His/Her Worries

HEAVENLY FATHER,

We praise Your holy name, King of Kings and Lord of Lords!

You offer us unfailing faithfulness, perfect love and unending grace.

You are worthy of our adoration and praise!

Thank You for the ultimate gift in Jesus Christ, who through His life, death and resurrection lifted us out of our sin and shame, offering us a grace greater than the gravity of life.

Father, this world is aching, confused and seemingly hopeless.

We seek Your will, Father.

We lift our eyes to You, Lord, for You are our helper and provider.

You raise the poor from the dust and lift the needy from the ash heap.

Ignite in us an insatiable hunger to LIFT those who are hurting or in need of hope in Jesus' holy and powerful name.

Thank You for this church, Your body at work.

You have trusted us with much.

Grant us the courage to respond boldly to Your call to invest the gifts of time, talent and treasure You've given us to LIFT others who so desperately need You, both locally and globally.

Gracious Lord, we ask You to take Your rightful place on the throne of our lives and make us a remarkably generous, kingdom-impacting people.

All glory and honor and praise to You, our good and faithful Father!

AMEN.

LEARN MORE ABOUT LIFT

LiftTogether.us

IMPORTANT DATES

Advance Commitment Night

Friday, January 27 | Oak Brook

Commitment Sunday

Sunday, February 12

CHRIST CHURCH 

OAK BROOK | 501 Oak Brook Rd., Oak Brook | 630.654.1882

BUTTERFIELD | 25361 Glen Park Rd., Lombard | 630.654.1884

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