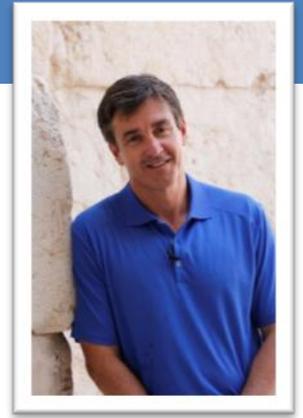


**Pastor Allen Jackson**



Luke 12:22-32 (NIV<sup>®</sup>)

<sup>22</sup> Then Jesus said to his disciples: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. <sup>23</sup> Life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. <sup>24</sup> Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! <sup>25</sup> Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? <sup>26</sup> Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest? <sup>27</sup> "Consider how the lilies grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. <sup>28</sup> If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! <sup>29</sup> And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. <sup>30</sup> For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. <sup>31</sup> But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well. <sup>32</sup> "Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom.

## Defeat Despair

### A. Consider the Cross

Romans 8:31-32 (NIV<sup>®</sup>)

What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? [32] He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all--how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

1. admission of inability
2. demonstration of God's willingness

1 Corinthians 1:18, 25 (NIV<sup>®</sup>)

<sup>18</sup> For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

... <sup>25</sup> For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength.

### B. In the Presence of God

Psalms 40:1-5 (NIV<sup>®</sup>)

I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry.

[2] He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.

[3] He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God.

Many will see and fear and put their trust in the Lord.



**Freedom from Worry**  
**Overcoming Anxiety with God's Love, Purpose, and Power**  
Small Group Study Kit – Includes 6-part DVD and Study Guide

Get your copy today at [Intend Resources](http://IntendResources.com)

[4] Blessed is the man who makes the Lord his trust, who does not look to the proud, to those who turn aside to false gods.

[5] Many, O Lord my God, are the wonders you have done. The things you planned for us no one can recount to you; were I to speak and tell of them, they would be too many to declare.

1. Tell God exactly how you feel
2. Acknowledge a willingness to change
3. Thank Him for who He is & what He has done
4. Ask Him to lead your life

### **PRAYER**

Heavenly Father, may your word take root in my heart. May my thoughts and feelings be directed by your word and power. I rejoice today in the hope that is mine through Christ Jesus my Lord. I stand in the victory which Jesus won for me. Through the blood of Jesus I am delivered out of the hand of the enemy. Through the blood of Jesus I am forgiven, justified and set apart for the purposes of God. Holy Spirit open my heart to the fullness of my redemption. In Jesus' name, amen.

Scripture quotations marked (NIV<sup>®</sup>) are taken from the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION<sup>®</sup>, NIV<sup>®</sup>. COPYRIGHT © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc. <sup>®</sup>. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.