

On Memorial Day, our nation takes time to remember those who have influenced us. Some things that influence us are their sacrifices that help us see our purpose better. But there are a lot of obstacles that blind us from seeing our purpose, especially our purpose as a child of God.

We remember them because they didn't let the worry control them. And their commitment even through potential worry gave us a powerful model to look to. In spite of fears, concerns, even dangers, they knew the right thing to do may cost them everything.

As we recognize that as a nation on special days, we see that in Christ all the time. He wasn't worried about what would be done to him by those he loved but who didn't love him in return. He didn't let their selfishness, their anger, or their actions to impede his service to them. He didn't let judgment cloud his mission. As he got closer to that event that obviously caused him stress (**Luke 22:44**), we read in **Luke 9:51**, "... Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem."

But long before the actions of his sacrifice that would set the standard for all his followers; Jesus taught about the need to be determined to live for God in the Sermon on the Mount.

In that powerful sermon, Jesus outlined the kind of life that we need to live to resemble the image of God that God has placed upon mankind. To honor that image, we faithfully follow Christ's examples and his teaching (**Matt 28:19-20**).

In that sermon, Jesus reveals to us the connection between worry and judgment. Not only does judgment follow worry in the text, sequentially, but the attitude of judgment is often connected to our worry about things that "threaten" my image. But as Paul says about his new image in **Gal 2:20**, "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." Remember Him, lest we forget!

Read **Matt 7:3-5**

How important is this time of observation?

How does observation reduce worry?

How does proper observation (evaluation) help curb worry which leads to judgment? What you gain from observing?

How do things like: losing money, gaining money, or having no change impact your anxiety?

How do we stop judging?

Describe what worries you most.



BEATITUDES
BUILDERS
CHURCH
JUDGMENT

BIRDS
JESUS



REMEMBRANCE DAY
Lest We Forget