

FRET

SHARE

If you didn't have to worry about the expense, what is one thing you would buy right now?

SEEK

Fret and Finances

She checked her mailbox when she came home from work. She began to sweat as she recognized the business logos on each white rectangle. These weren't logos that aroused excitement like Nike or Apple; these were logos that had conditioned her to panic, reminding her that life was lived paycheck to paycheck.

Nothing but bills.

She laid aside the envelopes on the kitchen table. *There's no point in even opening them*, she thought to herself. *How can I pay all this?*

This is a common occurrence for many. According to a 2017 study by CareerBuilder, 8 in 10 U.S. workers live paycheck to paycheck. While this is not a lecture on finances, it is a revealing factor for why so many Americans experience anxiety and stress over their future and finances. What can be said about all this?

Thanks be to God that He loves us so much! In Matthew 6.25-34, we are reminded that God cares for His creation. The point is made: If God feeds the birds and makes beautiful lilies blossom in the fields, how much more is the worth of His people? Jesus asks, "Aren't you worth so much more than they?" This is not a trick question. The answer is, "Yes, I am worth more than those things." Of course there is something to say about human responsibility and how we can manage finances with wisdom, but God's care is promised to His children.

SEE

FRET AND FINANCES

ARE YOU SURPRISED BY THE CAREERBUILDER STATISTIC? IS THIS A POVERTY PROBLEM? ARE THOSE WHO ARE LIVING PAYCHECK TO PAYCHECK VICTIMS OF POVERTY, OR IS IT AN ISSUE WITH MANAGING MONEY WELL? EXPLAIN YOUR ANSWER.

WHAT ARE THE KINDS OF STRESSORS AND WORRIES THAT COME FROM LIVING PAYCHECK TO PAYCHECK?

DO YOU BELIEVE "GOD HELPS THOSE WHO HELP THEMSELVES"? DO YOU THINK GOD WILL HELP SOMEONE FINANCIALLY WHO DOES NOT HANDLE FINANCES WELL? WHAT IS OUR PART TO PLAY WITH THE FINANCES WE'VE BEEN GIVEN?

WHAT KIND OF COMFORTS DO YOU FIND IN MATTHEW 6.25-34? THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN *KNOWING* WHAT THIS PASSAGE SAYS AND *BELIEVING* IT. WHAT WOULD LIFE BE LIKE TO *BELIEVE* WHAT THIS PASSAGE SAYS?

Please take a few moments to pray with and for one another