

Introduction:

Text: Mark 8:34-36

A. The Etiology or origin of Man's Life, Work, Diet, and Death (Gen. 2:7, 15-17)

1. Man's life came from the breathe of God (v. 7).
2. Man's first work was gardening (v. 15).
3. Man's basic diet was fruit (v. 16).
4. Man's death started when he defied God's decree (vv. 16-17; 3:17-19).
5. **Twofold question:** These four points about the origin of man's life, work, diet, and death deal with the question, "Why do we human beings go through what we go through on earth, and how can we have a winning life in whatever we go through on earth?"

B. Jesus' warning regarding Life and Livelihood (Luke 12:13-15)

1. Don't mistake abundant livelihood for abundant life—why?
 - a. Because mistaking abundant livelihood for abundant life could lead to all kinds of greed.
 - b. Also, this could make your life empty in spite of your abundant possessions.
2. Remember Jesus' warning in our text: Mark 8:36

C. Jesus' wisdom on how to live a Worry-free life (Matt 6:25-33)

1. Know that your heavenly Father values you more than the birds of the air (v. 26).
2. Know that you cannot add a single hour to your life by worrying (v. 27).
3. Don't worry about your food and your fashion (v. 31).
4. Don't do what the pagans do (v. 32).

5. But seek first the Father's kingdom and His righteousness, and He will give all the things you need for your life (v. 33)

6. Illustrations:

Conclusion:

TABLETALK STARTERS

(For family devotions and Life Groups)

Read: Genesis 2:7, 15-17

1. Why do we go through what we go through on earth, and what do we learn from the mistake of Adam in this passage?

Read: Luke 12:13-15

2. How do we apply Jesus' teaching regarding life and livelihood, that warns us against greed and emptiness, in spite of having abundant livelihood?

Read: Matthew 6:25-33

3. What is the ultimate cure for worry, and the secret to abundant living?

PRAY!