

## **Working With The Voice Transcript**

WWTV Episode 015 and 016

Commentary on the Sermon on the Mount: Part 4: Hypocrisy, Possessions, Treasures & Worry  
October 2, 2018

Hello Listeners! This is your host Juliet Mee. I want to thank all of you for the feedback you are sending me and the number of times that you are listening to the episodes and passing it along to friends and family members. This episode is the fifteenth total and the fourth that is specifically about the Sermon on the Mount. It's best to listen to the episodes in order so you can gain the most full and cohesive understandings.

Last week's episode took us to the middle section of the Sermon, which was about giving, praying and fasting. These are the three pillars of Christian religious practice. Included in with the episode was the critical central instruction that we call "The Lord's Prayer" which is the most well-known Christian prayer. Throughout the entire sermon, there are instructions given about how to do the things that God wants us to do, and warnings about pitfalls, the traps that we can easily get into. The last episode had an instruction to do things for God with the right internal reasons, and in addition to go out of your way to do them so that other people don't know about it. The warning was because we can easily get into a pattern of doing things for the praise of other people rather than the real reason we are supposed to be doing it. I've gotten into some interesting conversations this week and what it has made me realize is that people are listening to this podcast for many different reasons, and not all of them want to learn how to be Christians. For the people who have no desire to be Christian, the podcast is just an interesting thing to listen to. For my listeners who are already Christians, they seem to get more out of it. They tell me that they learn things about the bible that they didn't know, and also that the podcast has given them a place to tell other people to go for more information about practical Christianity. I'm not sure I'm getting my message across in the way I want. I am doing this podcast because I want people to get interested in Christianity. Not because I want to have a group of people that have gotten "saved" because of my influence, but because Christianity and the example of Jesus's life gives us a pathway to a much better way of living than I have ever experienced. Most importantly, once you begin hearing regular communication from the Holy Spirit, you have a huge edge on achievement, fulfillment and joy.

I'd love to say that people have converted from being athiests to being Christians because of something they heard here, but I don't think that has happened. I don't know anyone who isn't a Christian who wants to be a Christian. Why would you want to be, or not? Ultimately, the people that I trust the most, the ones who have been on this path the longest tell me something that doesn't really compute for me at this time. They say that the most important reason to be a Christian really is eternal life; that life everlasting in heaven where you go after your death on earth and you get to see all your loved ones and know all the secrets of the universe, that place where everything bad that happened here is all made right. And since you've been listening this far, I think you know that concept doesn't make the cut for me. I don't want to go into my beliefs about the afterlife; heaven, hell, reincarnation, sleep, home, judgment, purification, annihilation, reunion or resurrection. I frankly don't know what happens but I think that if you do the things here that you are supposed to do, you'll be fine in the afterlife. I have a lot of knowledge about sales and marketing in me, and its undeniable that the question "What's in Christianity for me" Isn't being adequately addressed. The Christian religion is losing members rapidly in a time where the message is more pertinent than ever.

So what's the problem? If Christianity is so great (which it is, by the way) why doesn't everyone say, "I want this! Tell me more!"? It's not that people disagree with Jesus's teachings, ethics, and instructions. It's not 100% about the thinking that Jesus wasn't a real person. Christianity is seen as a yucky, uncool religion and although it's truly unfortunate, I don't see that getting any better soon.

The Sermon on the Mount was given over 2000 years ago and at that time Jesus was tired of the people who didn't control their own anger, were lecherous, weaseled out of promises, were hard hearted to their spouses, stingy, and holier than thou. They were Jewish hypocrites, people who taught the law and acted in contradiction to what they said they believed. Christians who act this same way today are the ones who I believe are keeping people away from the most important information that they need to make their lives work.

Jesus warns us to not be hypocrites because it's bad for us and it's bad for other people. I'm not judging, I'm really not. There's just actions that people say they are totally against, then they do them. Not opinion or interpretation, fact.

Where I live in Greene County Missouri, about half of the people identify as Christian in one way or another. We are a major part of the buckle of the bible belt, and although religious people are still the majority here, the trend is that substantially more people are identifying their religion as "none".

So I can only imagine what my world would look like if everyone who was Christian all of a sudden started doing these things for real: As a side note, these are everyday type things, not big major crimes like murder and rape or voting for politicians I don't like...

- What if every Christian stopped acting out of anger, and decided to go to anger management voluntarily?
- What if Christians didn't steal or financially cheat people?
- What if every Christian told people that they had harmed that they were sorry, asked for forgiveness, and then forgave everyone who had hurt them?
- What if Christians who are in a committed relationship treated their spouse or significant other with respect, and stopped having affairs and thinking sleazy sexual thoughts?
- What if you could trust that if a person told you that they were Christian, you could know without a doubt that they could be counted on to tell the truth and would keep their word?
- What if Christians never did any violence to others, even if it had been done to them?
- What if Christians could be counted on to be generous and to do more than they were asked at their job or in their neighborhood?
- What if you knew that Christians prayed for instructions about the wellbeing of their enemies as well as how to best live their own lives?
- What would it look like if Christians trusted that they would be taken care of and that they had no reason to doubt that their needs would be met every day?
- What if people took care of their own shortcomings before pointing out the shortcomings of others?

So what I'm asking is, what if Christians started acting like Christians?

I can almost feel certain listeners that I know squirming while I say this, but as I understand it, the Christian religion is intended to be an action as well as a belief. People squirm because there is a big faction of Christians who say that all you have to do is believe, just have faith. You do not have to do any "works". I belong with the camp that says that "faith without works is

dead” and that your actual vocation is an important way that the Holy Spirit works in our lives and in the world. WORKING WITH THE VOICE. GET IT? Saying you believe something and then don’t adhere to it is weird. I have many shortcomings and am most definitely not doing everything I should, but I do know what I am supposed to be working on and I do work on those things. There is a check valve to keep me going in the right direction in all of this and it’s the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will point out to me the things I am overlooking, and in all honesty, I sometimes am really uncomfortable at first when this happens. I have grown to realize that there’s a benefit to me to stop doing or start doing what He says even though my first inclination is to make a case for myself by explaining to him what my line of thinking was.

Okay, part of what you listeners get to hear is what is on my mind at the time I write the podcast and today I am going to take a detour. I’ll get back to the hypocrisy thing and the Sermon on the Mount shortly. I read a question about the Holy Spirit on a non-religious board today. It was the standard “What is the Holy Spirit” type question and it was answered by a person who gave the standard answer. The part that has set me off this morning is that in their answer, the person described the actions of the Holy Spirit which I agree are very desirable. But then their emphasis went to pounding into the questioner’s head that you (quote) “can’t have the Holy Spirit unless you have realized that you need Jesus, acknowledged that He is the Messiah, claimed him as your savior, and surrendered to his Lordship in your life.”. That is really heavy. This is not correct as far as my experience with the Holy Spirit goes. You definitely can have and do have the Holy Spirit acting in your life no matter who you are. Almost every person I have ever spoken to has told me that they feel that they have heard the Holy Spirit or had him act in their life even if they aren’t Christian. He certainly came to me first. How would anyone ever get to the understanding of Jesus if they didn’t have the Holy Spirit working in their life? The Holy Spirit does amazing things for us but people don’t know how to access the help on a regular and consistent basis because when he gives them the message that they need to look to the life of Jesus, they don’t believe it. What many of them have seen represented in concrete situations and encounters in the world is “not Jesus” and so they think that it is not the right road and they go looking for God other places. Once I finally put all the clues together and understood that this source of good things, the one who provided me with breath taking synchronicities, the one who told me things that were dramatically helpful to me, was the Holy Spirit, then I could get better at communication. Then I could understand the life of Jesus because the Holy Spirit taught me.

So I consider this understanding important because we are talking about hypocrisy today. And part of hypocrisy is delusion. Delusion by definition is a false belief, and lots of Christian hypocrisy is because the hypocrite is deluded, thinking they can intentionally or unintentionally skirt the major parts of Jesus’s teachings and still be okay. Or that they can know that the Holy Spirit has told them to do something but they do something else, for instance, the Holy Spirit can tell me to go to a 4:00 workout and I’ll decide that it works out better for me to go to the 6:30 workout. It’s all equal, right? No, we have absolutely no idea why the Holy Spirit tells us to do many things until AFTER we have done them. If a person knew to listen and knew how to listen, and had faith that the Holy Spirit was always pointing them in the right direction, they could operate off of that even if they never picked up a bible. I’ll stand by that message until I hear something different from the Holy Spirit, but I’m pretty darn sure I’m correct. It is true that the Holy Spirit points us to the life of Jesus because it is easier for us to understand when we see the example that the Bible gives, and finding a copy of the bible is pretty easy any more.

A lot of the Christian delusion that is clearly seen by non-Christians is basically a repetition of tribal beliefs. “This is what the tribe says, so I’ll just repeat it and even though I don’t really

believe it, maybe sooner or later I'll understand it." That thinking leads to these types of hypocritical practices and beliefs:

- I can know what to do but not do it and still be okay.
- I can misapply a scripture, and that's okay because it's scripture, and scripture applies to everything.
- I can do the external act, not attend to my internal feelings, and still get God's reward.
- I can do things that make me look good because when I look good, I honor God. If people are impressed by me and start attending my church, that's what matters. They can get their information there.

Ultimately, Jesus talked a lot about hypocrisy and identified that actions that weren't properly aligned were worthless in the eyes of God. They are also detrimental in ways that aren't so apparent. Religious hypocrisy hurts the person in ways they may or may not realize. In addition, it makes God, who is totally good, look bad, and in that, it hurts God as well as the people who need to know Him. I do not usually bring in other scriptures outside of the ones we are working with because it gets confusing, but this one has been on my mind all week.

**It is from the book of John, Chapter 8 Verse 1.**

*Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.*

*<sup>2</sup> At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. <sup>3</sup> The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group <sup>4</sup> and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. <sup>5</sup> In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" <sup>6</sup> They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him.*

*But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. <sup>7</sup> When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." <sup>8</sup> Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground.*

*<sup>9</sup> At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. <sup>10</sup> Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"*

*<sup>11</sup> "No one, sir," she said.*

*"Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."*

I have always wondered what Jesus was writing and now I think I know. This week, the Holy Spirit has repeatedly said to me, "The names of hypocrites are written in the earth." I believe that Jesus was writing their names on the ground, the oldest to the youngest, as he must have known that they were accusing her of a practice they themselves had engaged in.

I do not want my name written on the earth. I want my name written in heaven.

Jesus's warning that we covered in the last episode was against coveting the praise of other people by having them see you giving, praying, and fasting. This next warning is against coveting the wealth of the world.

### Treasures in Heaven

<sup>19</sup>"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal.

<sup>20</sup>But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.

<sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

<sup>22</sup>"The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are good, your whole body will be full of light.

<sup>23</sup>But if your eyes are bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

<sup>24</sup>"No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money.

This section identifies that you have choices, and in this section He encourages us to choose three things wisely; where to obtain treasure, what is your end goal, and who will be your master.

First: About **Treasures**: These are what you can see as your security, or your source of "good stuff" or your path to abundance. Is it your job, your savings, your retirement benefits, your furniture or your house? Most people have the feeling that if they just had a little bit more money, everything would be all right. At some point, most people realize that you always want just a little more than you have. This scripture points out that the things that are made in this world have within them an inescapable principle of corruption and decay. There is nothing that is permanent on the earth, and you should always remember that when you are involved in gaining them. Every object ultimately withers and becomes less due to its physical nature and in addition, it can be taken from you. It's been said that not every corrupt person physically harms other people, but every corrupt person aims their energy where treasure is laid up. Bank robbers rob banks for a reason.

"Home" is where your heart is. It's also true that where your treasure is there your heart will be. So ultimately, where your treasure is, your heart and home are too. So invest wisely and store your treasures in heaven, not the earth. What does that mean? It means to be looking towards acceptance through praying, fasting, and being generous to other people with an eye to God, not to humans. It doesn't mean that you shouldn't have a good income, benefits, or savings. It means that you recognize that these things have a tendency to disappoint or become reduced. Although they work out many times, they aren't guaranteed.

Second choice to be made: **What is the end goal?** Jesus tells us to have a "good eye". In the Jewish tradition, a person who was generous was said to have a good eye that is full of light, or translated that means to be generous with an understanding that comes from God. To have the evil eye is to be stingy and live in darkness. The eye symbolizes the qualities of understanding, practical judgment, and conscience which are the directors of the soul. The eye guides and directs the body. If you are attempting to hit any goal, whether you are an archer or are rowing

a boat, you need to focus your eyes in the direction that you intend to go, and keep them there! Understanding the direction so you can guide momentum is of paramount importance and we have all seen little kids playing T-ball who don't yet know how to do this look everywhere except at the ball. In business, we have seen empires fall due to having the wrong goal, not communicating the goal properly, or not focusing the employee's attentions properly.

Having the eye filled with light, the understandings of God is important. You can be generous but in fatal ways by interpreting evil things as good and good things as evil. The Holy Spirit can definitely guide you on how to give and where to be generous. He wants you to learn to have his eye, which has been said is like a dove's eye. In the bible, the dove represents the Holy Spirit. Dove's eyes have a singular focus which means a dove is only able to focus on one object at a time. Learn one thing at a time and do your best to truly understand it. Those that will not understand the light walk in darkness.

Third Choice to be made: ***Who is your master?*** Jesus says this simply. No man can serve two masters, and the specific masters he is talking about are God and money. We aren't servants to God, but we can choose to work for Him as if we are. Imagine you're a servant walking down the road with two masters. While they walk along together, there isn't a problem but when they go different ways you'll have to choose which one to travel along side. Ultimately the masters will compete and contradict each other. It's inevitable that if you pursue the road of money, you will not be able to pursue the road of God. And if you pursue the road of God, you will not be able to pursue the road of money.

This section tells us to invest in the practices that God wants us to invest in, to be generous with an understanding of how God wants us to use money, and to always place God as the one to whom we are exclusively loyal.

In theory, that's great, but in reality, initially, it kind of sucks because it's so scary. I can honestly say that once you figure out how this all works, it IS great, and definitely the way to go. I do understand that life has concrete situations and mortgages and utilities need to be paid in cash, not with an IOU from God. It's understandable why people negotiate their ethics sometimes at work or with people that pay them money because they need to pay the bills, and that paycheck gets them there. Most people feel a responsibility to take care of themselves and their families, and they encounter a tremendous amount of stress when situations occur that give the impression that they will have to make choices that could put those things at risk. And it feels especially foolish to trust in a God you cannot see to take care of making sure money is in the bank. But people have made themselves miserable by violating their personal ethics, giving in to the demands of abusive spouses and children, and keeping up with the Joneses. How this all works involves an understanding of the entire message of Jesus and God's good provision. So this next section will fill in the instructions.

### Do Not Worry

<sup>25</sup>"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes?"

<sup>26</sup>Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?

<sup>27</sup>Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?

<sup>28</sup>And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin.

<sup>29</sup>Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these.

<sup>30</sup>If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

<sup>31</sup>So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'

<sup>32</sup>For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them.

<sup>33</sup>But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

<sup>34</sup>Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

This section of scripture points to the fact that disquieting, distracting, distressful cares about the things of life are a bad sign that both the treasure and heart are on the earth and that your master isn't God. Jesus warns about worry and insists that his disciples guard against it. He does not want us to have thoughts that disquiet and torment our minds, tell us to hurry, leave us in stressful suspense and disturb our joy. How many of us have had anxiety ridden thoughts keep us up at night? How many times have we not been able to enjoy a gathering with friends because we have been too stressed out? Jesus is also speaking against distrustful and unbelieving thoughts about God and his ability and willingness to provide adequately for his followers, his children..

Here's another little segue that feels appropriate now. Physical possessions are something that Jesus taught a lot about, and there is a reality that there is a direct correlation between the amount of worry and anxiety people have and the amount of possessions they have. More possessions, more worries. We want things and have anxiety. Then we have too much and have anxiety. We're keeping up with the neighbors. Affluenza is a psychological malaise that occurs from having too much and the symptoms of which are a lack of motivation, feelings of guilt, and a sense of isolation. You've heard the statistics, worldwide, 1% had more wealth than the bottom 90 percent combined. The three richest people have more than 48 nations combined. The top 400 richest Americans have more wealth than half of all Americans combined.

But even if you don't find yourself in those illustrations, I will stand by this statement: We have too much stuff. That's the factual reality. In America, almost without exception we have too much and feel we have too little, and we report that stuff plus free time equals happiness for almost all of us. When your priorities become God first, you will also prioritize needs and wants differently. I encourage you to get your stuff organized and to get rid of lots of it, in fact, I think you can get rid of almost all of it. Too many possessions create economic anxiety and feelings of hopelessness that rob you of life. If you don't believe me, even though these are extreme examples, just watch one of the popular "Hoarders" shows and see what types of emotional baggage go with excess items around you.

In 1930 the average American woman owned nine outfits. Today they own thirty. One in ten Americans rent a storage unit. Normally you look for nine items a day that you've misplaced and it's estimated that you'll spend 153 days of your life looking for things.

It seems that everyone is afraid that God will make them “just get by” with some sort of menial provision, or that if you are “called” you will be called into the ministry or a life of poverty. Of course that isn't correct. God doesn't work that way. Our fears can't come from our trusting him and him not responding because from my experience, most people do not trust God exclusively for their livelihood at this time. They trust regular worldly methods. A third of the population when surveyed already report that they are just getting by. The Federal Reserve estimates nearly half of Americans would need to sell something or borrow money if they had a \$400 emergency and this is all while the home organization industry is growing 10 percent each year. So what's at the root of all this?

We see what others have and find ourselves wanting that rather than understanding that there will always be more and more to want. Most of us have a very high standard of living in comparison with the rest of the world. We live a life of luxury and ease that was inconceivable just 50 years ago. I am grateful for my internet, air conditioning, cell phone, dishwasher, vehicles, and the ability to travel by air. I don't want to give that lifestyle up, and I don't think that we have to. But I do think that part of all this is seeing our abundance, being grateful for it, understanding that God operates in abundance, and that He can provide for us completely.

I've had a big life change and before this change occurred for me, like a lot of people, I had a lot of responsibilities. Thinking about leaving anything unpaid caused me tremendous anxiety. I had property, employees, and lots of bills that recurred every month like clockwork. I did not put God in charge of making sure they got paid, I put me in charge of that. It was the traditional vicious circle, and although I always seemed to have enough, I always wanted more. If I had money in the bank I felt like I needed more. I wanted to invest in something new or have the money to pay next month's bills in the bank. It was a rat race, but one that I usually loved. I say usually because there were times that were terrifying. Especially when we got into the law suit that I described in the first episode, because I didn't understand that through it, I was being called to a new type of work. I have now spoken with many, many people who have been called by God through their business or their job. If you are called in this way, it means that God wants you to use your skills to improve the world. Every person, 100% of them, told me that they were terrified in the process because they didn't understand what God was doing or that it was God doing it. Most of them had no one to talk with about the experience, and it felt like they were in the desert. By the way, if you suspect that this is happening to you, please feel free to contact me personally at [Juliet@workingwiththevoice.com](mailto:Juliet@workingwiththevoice.com). Sooner or later I hope to be able to produce an episode about the steps that a person goes through when they are learning to put God first in their finances. If you are considering doing this by your own choice, not necessity, I congratulate you on your wisdom. It is the best and right thing to do. But lots of us got taken to our knees to show us that if we put God first, He can make it all work out. If we don't we can lose it all.



To get my life prioritized properly took time and required significant help from the Holy Spirit. I had to rebuild my entire life, who I thought I was and how I applied my skills. Currently, I feel that I am at a kindergarten level of achievement, but now I do know that my investment is in the right treasures, I know the end goal, and God is in charge. I no longer worry or have anxiety. But that came from understanding that my life was greater than my livelihood and by gaining the skills of communication with the Holy Spirit..

Here are some practical realizations I have made getting to this point in my life:

God has promised to provide for us, and if you trust him and have faith, He will. I think almost everyone is afraid that he will provide for us like beggars, because we have seen people who it looks like he has not provided for. There is a correlation between faith and the ease with which you receive your provision. If you have only a small amount of faith, this process can really tear you up. This is why you really need to find a way to connect with the Holy Spirit. I came up with the Daily Practice which is found on the website [workingwiththevoice.com](http://workingwiththevoice.com) because it built the skills to learn to trust God and have the faith that I needed. Although it was free, I invested a lot of time in those practices and at first it took me hours every day to go through them and get to a point of calm that was able to sustain me all day.

Another practical realization is to be more prudent in how you get what you need. It should be legal and although you are trusting God to provide, that doesn't mean you aren't responsible. It's good to set up a budget so you can know how much money you will need and then ask God to send the money. By the way, he never sends it early. I usually got it in my bank account five minutes before the deadline. The times that I didn't receive the money, it was because I didn't need to pay the bill or have the item.

In this scripture, Jesus uses birds as part of the symbology. Birds don't sow, reap, or gather, but they are fed every day. This analogy isn't used so that you choose not to work, but if you are taking on this "re-ordering" of your life, you will find yourself working and applying your skills in different ways than before. In fact, it will probably feel like a weird combination of easier physical work, but harder emotional work. Sometimes what you are going through will make sense, sometimes it won't. This is hard to explain to other people if you are in the position where they ask you what you are doing, what's the plan. Many times you will have no idea what the full plan is, you will just know the next right step. And none of this is probably making sense to those people who aren't in the process. What I caution you against is losing faith. I keep my faith by writing down every time that I get a provision from God and then when I am feeling like I'm not sure it's going to work out, I look at the list. It reminds me that I have felt this way before and that it has worked out each time. Losing faith is serious though because you can really screw up the plan. You can have something that needs to be taken care of and if you change course, because you get scared that it won't be taken care of, you can really get yourself into some weird places. You may have to wait a LOT longer than you want to, but that is also how God teaches us. Again, follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit exclusively and you will find it working out every time better than you ever imagined.

Jesus addresses the issue of adornment and says to look to the lilies. He lets you know that you are certainly higher in God's eyes than they are, and that God wants them to look good, so he will want you to look good too. God created beauty. He will not leave you in drab circumstances. The instructions about all this? Don't care or worry about it. If you will trust and follow the instructions from the Holy Spirit, it will all be taken care of for you.

Jesus tells his Jewish disciples that the Gentiles seek these things because they don't know better which relates to people who are without God and don't know his providence. God created us and he knows what we need.

The instructions are not that you can't work for things, it's that you order yourself and your thoughts properly. All these things will be given to you. It's not the way to store, it's the way to be taken care of. Seek first the kingdom of God. Everything else is second. When there is competition or conflict, remember the order of God first.

This chapter ends with one of my favorite quotes: "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

As a last thought, for some people, being worldly-minded doesn't always relate to their bank account or their possessions. Being worldly minded can be the things you have pride about, those things that you see as part of your identity that give you other people's praise and applause like being really physically fit or having a sexy body, being known as a good athlete or performer or being the top of your profession. It can be those things that you love that are about living a life of ease like eating whatever you want whenever you want, sleeping in, or giving constant attention to entertainment like non-stop television or music. Those things all fall into being worldly-minded.

God will tell you that you have to be content with what you have. The world tells you to go for more.

God tells you to be honest, don't defraud, don't cheat. The world tells you to do it if you can get away with it.

God tells you to use your abundance to be charitable. The world tells you to keep it for yourself.

You are told to not worry but the world will tell you to worry about everything. Serving God is hard but it's not like serving a tyrant. The world is a tyrant.

Again, I want to thank you for listening. Next week we will go into the last chapter of the Sermon on the Mount. We've still got lots of great and interesting things to discuss, and I really enjoy how much you've been directly talking to me! Please feel free to contact me with questions, concerns, or feedback at [Juliet@workingwiththevoice.com](mailto:Juliet@workingwiththevoice.com). Have a great week!