

Matt 6:25 & 32-33

Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?

For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

If you are like me and everyone else in the world, you have bills that need to be paid each month, along with food to buy for your family, and gas to get back and forth to work and so on. So unless you are rich and do not have to worry about these things, rest assured we are all in the same boat.

Did you know that it's not a sin to have bills, but they can be if you allow your bills to control you. What do I mean by this? If your thoughts concerning your bills and how you will pay them consume most of your time, then you are in sin, because you are allowing your bills, or creditors to control your life.

Part of the punishment for Adam's fall was the fact that we have to work for a living.

† **Gen 3:17-19** *Then to Adam He said, "Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat of it': "Cursed is the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life. Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, and you shall eat the herb of the field. In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for dust you are, and to dust you shall return."*

However, it does not say that we live to work. In fact, nowhere in the bible do I remember reading that God created us to pay our bills and that was why we are here on this earth.

So what am I getting at with all of this? When we allow our bills to consume us, we have taken our eyes off the Lord, showing little faith that He will provide for our needs. Also when we do this, we are not doing what the Lord has called us to do, and that is to minister to others, because we spend so much time thinking of ourselves that we don't have time to care about others.

Notice Jesus said: ***"For after all these things the Gentiles seek."*** These were our concerns before we became a Christian. But that should all change, and Jesus tells us what that change should be: ***"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness."*** Seek to do the work the Lord would have us to do and take our eyes off ourselves. Once we do then: ***"and all these things shall be added to you."***

How do you do this? Just say a simple prayer like this one:

Father, I have been putting my trust in the things of this world and looking to the things of this world for comfort. I know you have always supplied my needs, and you won't stop now. I ask you to forgive me for putting my eyes on myself and not looking to the needs of others. I give all my bills and worries to You right now and ask You to please take care of them. Then please show me how I can minister to others, and with all this free time I will have, no longer spent worrying about these things, may I use it to minister to those people. I ask this in Jesus name. AMEN!

† **Matthew 7:7-11** *Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!*