## Dear Open Door Family,

I have worried from time to time. When our daughters first started to drive we lived in Detroit and there were times I worried about them when they were driving somewhere. Later on when they started to drive to other states for schooling I would love to say that I never worried anymore. I did not sit and anxiously call them every 10 minutes to see how they were doing. But I did have a sense of uneasiness until they had arrived safely. I have grown and I hope especially that I have learned more how to trust God. I was challenged by these verses from 1 Peter to think again about issues of worry and concern and trust in God.

**I Peter 5:5-7** (NET) ...all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. And God will exalt you in due time, if you humble yourselves under his mighty hand BY casting all your cares on him because he cares for you.

**1 Peter 5:7** (JBP) You can throw the <u>whole weight of your anxieties upon him</u>, for you are his personal concern.

Someone who is truly humble does not seek the spotlight for themselves, they do not want to be the center of attention. It is fascinating that Peter reminds us that God HATES the proud - but gives special ability (grace) to those who are truly humble. I have misused this verse in the past. By saying cast all my cares on Him because He cares for me. But I love the fact that the emphasis in this verses in on HOW we are to humble ourselves. We humble ourselves BY CASTING ALL the weight of the things that concern and trouble us on Him. When we do that we are saying to God we will not try to do this in our own wisdom, strength, or power. We know that You and You alone can take care of the problem or issue we are dealing. If we are honest we all have doubts and fears and we don't always handle them in godly ways. That is why these verses are so challenging. No matter what I'm struggling with - I can show that I am putting on Humility by taking that care, concern, or worry and giving it to God. Trusting Him to take care of it. Refusing to try to make it all work on my own. I love these two quotes: **ESV Study Bible** - "Worry is a form of pride because it involves taking concerns upon oneself instead of entrusting them to God."

**Life App. Study Bible - "**Letting God have your anxieties calls for action, not passivity. Don't submit to circumstances but to the Lord, who controls circumstances."

**PRAYER:** Lord, I confess that there are times when I worry and I give in to fear rather than in Humility placing what I am struggling with before You and trusting You with it. Please Lord, help me to turn away from trying to handle things myself and to cast what I'm struggling with on You.

Pastor Mark Kieft	
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