

# FLIPPED.

DEVOTIONAL

## The Flipside of Worry | Matthew 6:25-34

By Roger Sappington, Global Impact Pastor

In his book on Nehemiah entitled *Learning to Lead*, James Montgomery Boice shares an account regarding the rewards of single-mindedness:

*There is a story involving Yogi Berra, the well-known catcher for the New York Yankees, and Hank Aaron, who at that time was the chief power hitter for the Milwaukee Braves. The teams were playing in the World Series, and as usual Yogi was keeping up his ceaseless chatter, intended to pep up his teammates on the one hand, and distract the Milwaukee batters on the other. As Aaron came to the plate, Yogi tried to distract him by saying, "Henry, you're holding the bat wrong. You're supposed to hold it so you can read the trademark." Aaron didn't say anything, but when the next pitch came he hit it into the left-field bleachers. After rounding the bases and tagging up at home plate, Aaron looked at Yogi Berra and said, "I didn't come up here to read."*

Aaron's focus at the plate led to a Hall of Fame career with 755 home runs, 3,771 hits and a batting average of .305.

Like Aaron, Christ's followers are called to have single-mindedness of purpose. Jesus tells his disciples in Matthew 6:33, *"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."* Jesus is saying there's one thing I want you to put your primary focus upon – me. Not your job, not your family, not your home, not your Facebook account, not the Rangers, not your retirement account. He goes so far as to say that his disciples should not be anxious about their most basic necessities nor even their very own lives (Matthew 6:25-32). The reason which Jesus gives for not worrying about these things is that the sovereign God cares for you. He knows your need and he is faithful to meet it – *"...and all these things will be added to you"* (6:33b).

Who or what are your Yogi Berras? What keeps distracting you from putting your primary focus upon Christ and his kingdom? Remember, Hank Aaron didn't wind up with a record for career home runs because he was reading his bat.

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