



DAY 1

"I don't know what to do, Ann,"

Joy Ridderhof groaned to her friend. "I just worry all the time. I know it's because I want to do my best in my schoolwork, but oh, it gives me such a stomach-ache!"

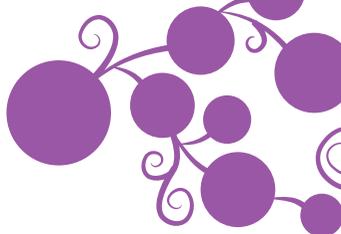
"God will help you," Ann answered. "Ask Him to help."

"I always do," said Joy, "but nothing changes. I wish I could stop, but I know it's just because I want to do my best. Ohhh."

Was Joy right? Did worrying really just show that she wanted to do her best?

Jesus said in Matthew 6:34, "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

What Joy's worry really showed about her was that she wasn't trusting God. If she prepared and trusted God, she could be confident that He would help her do her best.



The same is true for you. If you're worrying about doing your best, in your schoolwork or any other area of life, it's time to stop worrying and start trusting the Lord.

Father, sometimes worrying seems like a natural thing to do. Help me to always remember that You're in control so I can trust You.





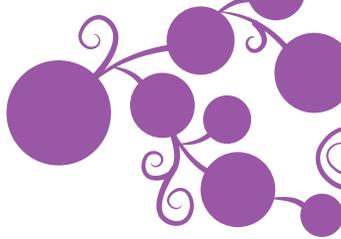
DAY 2

Joy heard a speaker who said that worrying meant a person's faith was small. He quoted George Mueller, who said, "The beginning of worry is the end of faith, and the beginning of true faith is the end of worry."

"True faith in the truly powerful God will bring an end to your worry," the speaker said. "He loves you! He can fill you with His joy!"

Joy had never thought about her worrying being a lack of faith. She had always thought it was a good thing! But now she repented and declared her trust in God.

Joy met the speaker, Robert McQuilkin, and became one of the first students at his Bible school. Then she went on to become a missionary, taking the gospel all over the world. There were many opportunities to worry, but Joy had learned that



every opportunity to worry was really an opportunity to trust.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. Philippians 4:6

Father, help me to remember that when I start worrying, I've stopped trusting. Help me to always trust instead of worrying.





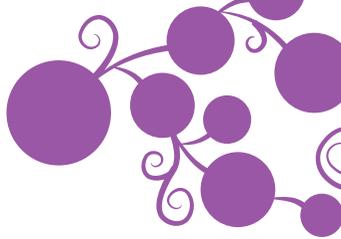
DAY 3

Little baby Fanny Crosby was blinded by the foolish action of a man who said he was a doctor. Her young mother, Mercy, prayed and saved money for five years to take Fanny to a great doctor in New York City to see if he could help cure her eyes.

But the doctor examined Fanny's eyes and decided they couldn't be helped. Mercy was overcome with despair. She believed God hadn't heard her prayer.

When Mercy got home to her own mother, Fanny's grandma, she cried and could hardly be comforted. But Grandma knew God must have something good in store for Fanny.

Many years later, Fanny Crosby became world famous for the many hymns and gospel songs she wrote.



Very often when a heartbreaking thing happens we can only see the short perspective. But God's perspective is very different, and He is always working good, even in tragedy. We can trust Him.

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Romans 8:28

Thank You, Lord, that even when life is very hard or bad things happen, I can still trust You to work things out for good.

