

## READ IT

This week's Bible story is

### Do Not Worry

from Matthew 6:24-34.



Epiphany

#### Jesus teaches to focus on today and work for God.

Ask each other what you remember about:

- Sow
- Reap
- Value
- Worry
- Toil
- Spin
- Strive

Originally, this text would have used the Aramaic word "mammon" for wealth. The Aramaic word personifies wealth and evokes the idea of an evil master, making a stronger comparison between the idea of serving God or serving wealth/mammon/evil master.

#### Read the whole story together in the Bible!

*Spark Story Bible* pages 276-277

*Spark Bible* page 1065

#### Family Prayer

Dear God, help us to let go of our fears for tomorrow in order to live in service to you today. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## TALK ABOUT IT



### Family Conversations

- 1 Name some things you have wanted and asked for lately. What do you think Jesus would tell you about wanting those things?
- 2 According to Jesus, should everyone stop working because God is going to provide?
- 3 If we "strive first for the kingdom of God," what are the actions we take? What do we do?
- 4 Look up the fable of The Ant and the Grasshopper and read it out loud. What is the message of this story? How does it compare to what Jesus tells us?



#### Eye Spark

Look for advertising images and slogans that encourage you to worry. Reject those messages. Instead of worrying, remember the "birds of the air."



#### Ear Spark

Listen for worries from other people. When you hear them, say a little prayer for yourself and them that you can remember the lilies of the field.

## LIVE IT

### For families to do together

Put away your work for an hour and take a walk or a bike ride together. Take time to notice the gifts of each other and God's world.

### For younger kids

Help sort the laundry and match the socks so your parents will have one less thing to "worry" about.

### For older kids

Surprise your parents by taking a chore off their hands: vacuum the floors or wash the windows or rake or shovel. Is there a chore that is stopping them from doing something else? Offer to do the chore for them!