

The background is a deep blue gradient with a subtle pattern of white dots, resembling a starry night sky. Overlaid on this are several faint, white geometric and celestial diagrams. On the left, a large circular scale with degree markings from 140 to 260 is visible, with smaller concentric circles and arrows indicating rotation. Other smaller circular diagrams with arrows are scattered across the upper and lower portions of the frame.

A FRIEND AT MIDNIGHT

PARABLES OF JESUS

11 One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.”

² He said to them, “When you pray, say:

“Father, in heaven
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come. May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

³ Give us each day our daily bread.

⁴ Forgive us our sins,
for we also forgive everyone who sins against us.
And lead us not into temptation. but deliver us from the evil one”

Luke 11:1-4

⁵ Then Jesus said to them, “Suppose you have a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; ⁶ a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have no food to offer him.’ ⁷ And suppose the one inside answers, ‘Don’t bother me. The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I can’t get up and give you anything.’ ⁸ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give you the bread because of friendship, yet because of your shameless audacity he will surely get up and give you as much as you need.

Luke 11:5-8

⁹ “So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

¹¹ “Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? ¹² Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? ¹³ If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

Luke 11:9-13

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COMPARISON OR CONTRAST

Parable	Comparison	Contrast
Home Owner	God	Human
Friend	Recipient	Recipient
Locked door/Kids in bed	God not answering	Human ignoring
Shameless Audacity	Persistent begging leading to God giving in	Persistent begging leading to human giving in to get peace

ASK

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.
(Philippians 4:6)

¹¹ “Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? ¹² Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? ¹³ If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children (Luke 11:11-13a)

- Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. – James 1:17
- The lions may grow weak and hungry,
but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing. – Psalm 34:10
- For the Lord God is a sun and shield;
the Lord bestows favor and honor;
no good thing does he withhold
from those whose walk is blameless. – Psalm 84:11

¹⁴ For this reason I kneel before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. ¹⁶ I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸ may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

²⁰ Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. – Ephesians 3:14-21

SEEK

Do we stop to listen?

Do we accept the answer that is given?

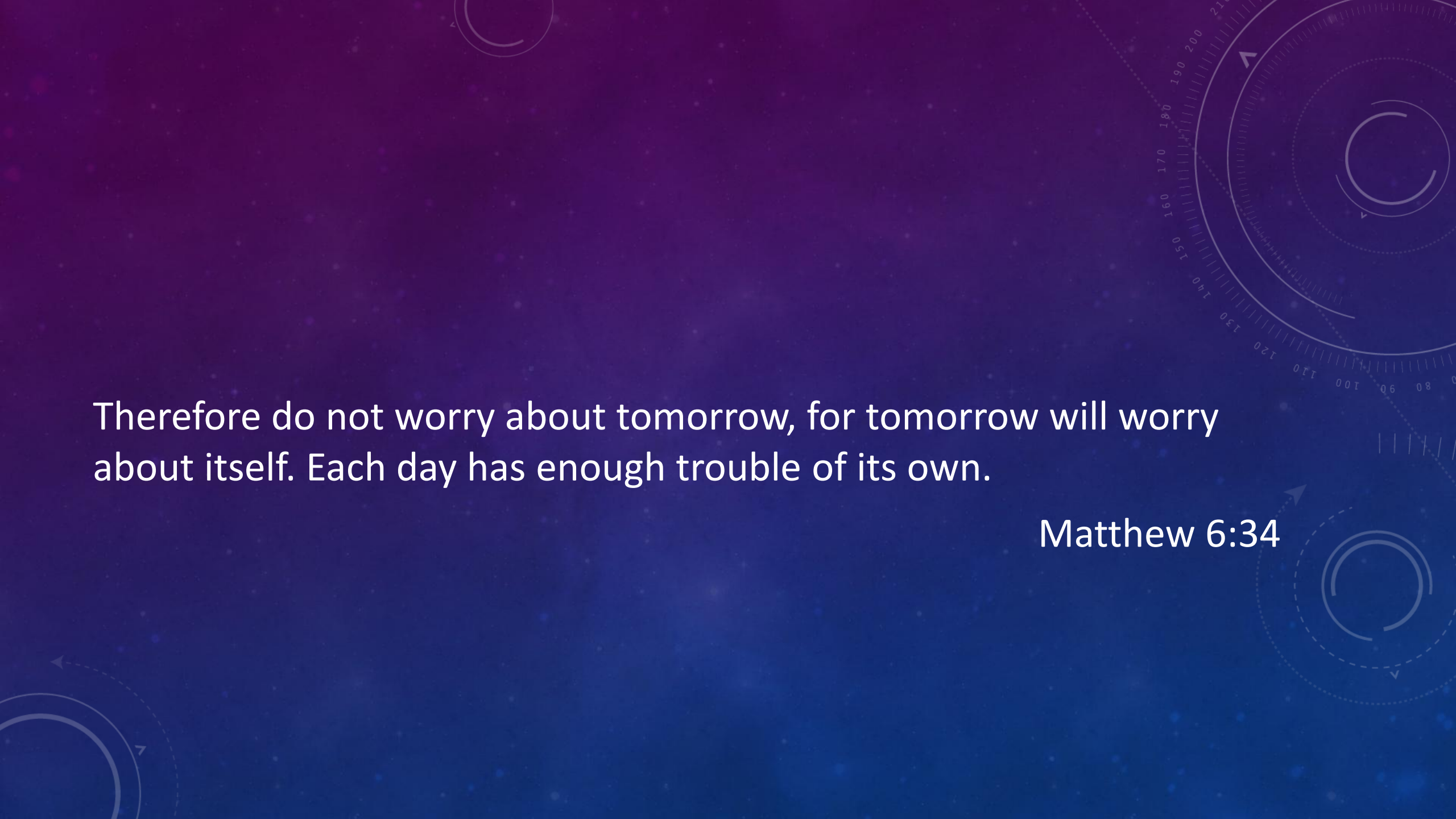
No is an answer!

KNOCK

⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

¹⁰ And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. ¹¹ To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 5:6-7 & 10-11

The background is a deep blue gradient with a subtle pattern of white dots, resembling a starry night sky. Overlaid on this are several faint, white geometric elements: concentric circles, arcs, and a large circular scale with numerical markings (100, 110, 120, 130, 140, 150, 160, 170, 180, 190, 200, 210) and arrows, suggesting a celestial or scientific theme.

Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Matthew 6:34

