
BSLC NEWS

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THE FLY

Have you ever had one of those loudly buzzing horseflies moving ever so steadily around your living room, kitchen, or bedroom? Too slow to be unnoticeable – too fast to kill. They fly right in the path of your eyes, ears, and hair. They land on your skin just long enough to cause an itch. It happened to me the other day and nearly drove me up a tree. It was like having sand in my shoe – all day long.



The same thing happens in my head with various thoughts. A little thing gets me upset or anxious, and it just hangs there, like a piece of ripe fruit just waiting to be picked, and yet it won't go away. Sometimes it's the most ridiculous thing – and yet it consumes my attention, and steals my joy.

Sometimes, I think, I subtly and errantly believe that I am responsible for all my own successes and failures – that I am the master of my own destiny by my own ingenuity, knowledge, wise decisions or good choices. And so, worry is my quasi-god when I don't know how to fix something or when I don't know how to make something successful. It's like a magic amulet – if I worry about it long enough or get anxious over it for a goodly period of time, it will be averted.

In truth, my loving Heavenly Father holds me firm in His embrace and is watching out for my every step. In truth, He is my King and the Guardian of my life. So why do I let the flies buzz around and wreak havoc with my faith? Why do I let their noise steal my joy?

Jesus talks about this problem. He says,

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. Life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?" Luke 12:22-25

So many positive things we could be doing with our energy and effort. So many lives we could touch or people we could help. If only we could truly get through our heads what St. Paul declares: *"If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all – how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?" (Romans 8:31-32)*

May God help all of us to ignore the fly. His time will come – and our time is valuable!

Pastor Hillenbrand