

The Secrets of the Realm

“A Non-Anxious Presence” (Part 2)

Matthew 13:36-43

God is a caring and powerful, _____ presence, no matter what threat I’m facing.

The Common Theme

A Lesson

Practices

Where is God leading you with your BLESS list this week?



Resources:

- [Infinite Game](#) by Simon Sinek.
- [The Life You’ve Always Wanted: Spiritual Disciplines for Ordinary People](#) by John Ortberg, chapter 5, “And Unhurried Life: The Practice of ‘Slowing’”
- “Getting Sabbath Rest Right” (Parts 1 & 2), Five Oaks sermons from February 4 and 11 (2024) at <https://bit.ly/3PYqBxs>
- [Managing Leadership Anxiety: Yours and Theirs](#) by Steve Cuss

Personal Reflection & Small Group Questions

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Read Matthew 13:24-43. What are some of the common themes you find running through these parables?
3. How do these parables encourage us to take the long view?
4. Read Revelation 20:1-3; 21:1-5; 22:1-5. What is the long view? Write out some of the highlights of what happens when God rules and reigns in the earthly realm as he does in the heavenly realm.
5. Of the four practices offered in the sermon, which one do you think would help you the most, and how might you implement it in your life?
6. What are some other practices that you have found help you to reflect God's non-anxious presence in anxiety- and fear-inducing situations?