

## **Jesus: He cares for you...**

The Apostle Peter makes a statement in a letter that he wrote to some Christians in the first century AD. He says...

**"Cast all your cares upon Him, for He cares for You." 1 Peter 5:7 NKJV.**

The most interesting thing about this is that usually, deities do not care for humans. They may have moments of compassion, but what we learn from mythology is that for the most part gods and goddesses are not meant to care for, let alone love people of the earth. This is one of the attributes that sets the God of Jesus apart from all others. His character is covered with love for each one of us. Check out this verse:

**"...for God is love. God showed how much he loved us by sending his only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. This is real love. It is not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins." 1 John 4:8-10 NLT**

Love started with God. Jesus came to the earth to show that God was not mad at humanity; He was (and still is) in love with people. He is the hopeless romantic that just will not give up. No matter how many times we run away from Him, He relentlessly pursues us. He truly wants to be with us. And He honestly wants to hear about what is bothering us.

Peter encourages us to cast our cares on God. This is not because of a law written somewhere. It is more than religious talk. We cast our cares and anxieties on God because He is genuinely concerned for us and He's big enough to handle them. Here is another quote from the Prophet Jeremiah:

**"Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." Lamentations 3:22-23 NIV**

When was the last time you prayed about the things that are troubling you? One last verse for you:

**"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philipians 4:6-7 NIV**

Whatever you are anxious about, God cares for You. And He wants to hear about the things you are going through. Below you will find some questions that may help you make known your requests to God. Each question also includes a scripture that can give you hope in the midst of wherever you are. All the scriptures are above.

- In regards to you personally, what is bothering you? (Remember Philipians 4:6-7)
- What about school? (Remember 1 Peter 5:7)
- Are you dealing with any relational issues right now - dating, friendships, family, etc? (Remember 1 John 4:8-10)
- Have you done something recently that you still feel guilty about? (Remember Lamentations 3:22-23)

PRAYER: God, I thank you for loving me and caring about me. I don't understand it, and sometimes the way I act it's like I don't even believe it. But, help me with my unbelief and give me the courage to fall into You and give You my cares and burdens. You are big enough to handle them and I thank you that even though You are the God of the Universe, you love me. Help me to live in that reality. Amen.