



## Part #3 // Jeff Brodie // October 9, 2022

*The cultural moment we are living in seems marked by a level of global anxiety. We are more connected than ever before and more anxious than ever before. Pandemics, polarization, war, racism, and violence are constantly in front of us. Maybe it shouldn't surprise us that our society is dealing with a higher level of anxiousness. But what if you lived differently? When you look at the life of Jesus and the early days of the New Testament church you see a calm non-anxious presence that inspired people - even a boldness. How did they live that way and can you learn the secret?*

**Bottom Line:** Prioritizing the presence of Jesus privately grows a non-anxious presence publicly.

**Scripture:** [Mark 4:35-40](#) // [Matthew 6:24](#) // [Matthew 6:31-34](#) // [Acts 4:5-13](#) // [Acts 4:23-31](#)

### Getting Started:

1. Looking back at last week, were you able to intentionally treat someone with grace AND truth? What was the interaction like?
2. Jeff shared about an increase in the level of general anxiety in our culture since 2019. Where have you seen this?
3. When a group of people you are with feel anxious, how do you think they experience you? (e.g. Do you dismiss it? Feed it? Run from it? Try to solve it?)

### Diving In:

4. Did anything specific stand out to you from the message on Sunday?
5. Read [Mark 4:35-40 NLT](#). What do you notice about the group anxiety in that boat? What do the disciples ask Jesus when they wake him up? What do you notice about Jesus' response? When you hear Jesus refer to faith, what comes to mind?
6. Read [Matthew 6:24 NLT](#), [Matthew 6:31-34 NLT](#). One of the principles you see Jesus teach here is that when we have masters in our life outside of him, it ultimately leads to worry. Where have you seen this to be true? Where do you find this challenging?
7. If you've made Jesus the leader of your life, why do you think it's challenging to keep him in that place? If you haven't chosen to make Jesus the leader of your life, how do you see this teaching from Jesus?
8. Read [Acts 4:5-13 NLT](#) When you reach this passage and see the boldness, and non-anxious presence of the disciples, what inspires you? What challenges you?

9. Read [Acts 4:23-31 NLT](#) Here you see the disciples privately bringing their fears to God and engaging the presence of God. Why do you think our private life with Jesus impacts our public life with others?
10. How do you think you could try to privately engage the presence of God more so you can be a non-anxious presence publicly?
11. What group of people in your life would be most impacted by you if you were able to be a more non-anxious presence?

**Moving Forward:**

Decide one thing you are going to do this week to engage the presence of God privately, then choose one group of people who you are going to be more non-anxious with publicly. See if this makes a difference for you.