

PERSONAL APPLICATION

- What areas of natural provision have you been seeking to obtain for yourself without any help from God? Make a list. What can you do this week to look to God as your provider in these areas?
- What areas of spiritual provision have you been seeking to obtain for yourself without any help from God? Make a list. What can you do this week to look to God as your provider in these areas?
- Do you have a daily time to go to God to talk about your natural and spiritual needs? If not, set one today. If you do, then make a list of the needs you will be presenting to God when you go to him in prayer each day.

PRAYER

- Ask God to supply specific areas of natural provision that you are lacking in your life.
- Ask God to supply specific areas of spiritual provision that you are lacking in your life.
- Think of all the ways God has provided for you. Make a list and be sure to thank God for all the things he has provided for you.

NOTES



The Lord's Prayer: Week 3

CONNECT

- What is your favorite kind of bread?
- Complete this, 'One of the hardest times of my life was when'
- Over half the world's population lives on less than \$2.50/day. In contrast, the average American spends \$7/day just on entertainment. How do we look at full closets & refrigerators, yet feel we need more?

WORD

"¹¹Give us this day our daily bread. ¹²And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors."
Matthew 6:11–12 (NKJV)

THOUGHT

God wants us to pray for natural provision. He wants us to ask for the things we need, such as food, clothing, housing, transportation, etc. One of the Hebrew names used to describe God in the Old Testament is "Jehovah Jireh," which means, "The Lord will provide." God is a giver, and He likes to provide for His children.

God wants us to ask for provision daily. Exodus 16 shows how He daily provided manna for the Israelites. Just like the Israelites, the need for daily provision causes us to be dependent on God (Deuteronomy 8:3). It causes

us to talk to Him daily about our needs. This daily provision tests our hearts—whether we will continually choose to depend on God. And like the manna, God will provide neither too much nor too little, but exactly what we need for our families and our businesses.

God also wants us to pray for spiritual provision. In Scripture, the word “bread” has a physical and a spiritual meaning. Jesus described Himself as the “bread of life” (John 6:31–35). The Word of God is our spiritual food, just as bread is our physical food. As we read God’s Word daily, He wants us to ask, “Lord, what is your word for me today?” He wants to speak to us daily.

From *The Provision of Prayer* study guide, by Robert Morris

1. NATURAL BREAD

¹⁵So when the children of Israel saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, “This is the bread which the LORD has given you to eat. ¹⁶This is the thing which the LORD has commanded: ‘Let every man gather it according to each one’s need, one omer for each person, according to the number of persons; let every man take for those who are in his tent.’ ” ¹⁷Then the children of Israel did so and gathered, some more, some less. ¹⁸So when they measured it by omers, he who gathered much had nothing left over, and he who gathered little had no lack. Every man had gathered according to each one’s need.”

Exodus 16:15–18 (NKJV)

¹¹Give us this day our daily bread.”

Matthew 6:11–12 (NKJV)

Jesus instructs us to pray for our daily provision. We live in one of the most expensive cities in America, yet few of us worry about having food tomorrow. The local grocery store or corner bodega remains fully stocked, always open, and fairly affordable. You can’t go very far without passing a restaurant. Our dilemma is more often choosing what to eat rather than finding something to eat. It hardly seems that we need to pray ‘Give us this day our daily bread.’” Is this request in the Lord’s Prayer relevant to us today? If so, how? What are some things that we rely on instead of God as sources of our daily provision?

2. SPIRITUAL BREAD

⁴But He answered and said, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.’ ”

Matthew 4:4 (NKJV)

³¹Our fathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’ ” ³²Then Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, Moses did not give you the bread from heaven, but My Father gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

John 6:31–33 (NKJV)

In Scripture, the word “bread” has a physical and a spiritual meaning. Jesus described Himself as the “bread of life” (John 6:31–35). The Word of God is our spiritual food, just as bread is our physical food. As we read God’s Word daily, He wants us to ask, “Lord, what is your word for me today?” He wants to speak to us daily. What is the most recent ‘spiritual bread’ God has given you? Share a thought or scripture that you felt came to you from God, whether it was through the Bible or prayer or another Believer.

3. DAILY BREAD

⁴Then the LORD said to Moses, “Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you. And the people shall go out and gather a certain quota every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in My law or not. ⁵And it shall be on the sixth day that they shall prepare what they bring in, and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily.”

Exodus 16:4–5 (NKJV)

God only gave the Israelites enough food for each day. His intention was that we would keep our relationship with him current every day. Why do you think God would want you to come to him in prayer every day?
