



The Father's Provision "The Lord's Prayer" Series

Matthew 6:11, p. 811

February 9, 2020

Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

In Petition Four of the Lord's Prayer, Jesus teaches us to seek and trust God for our daily provision.

The Text: Matthew 6:11

- 1) Summary: Petition Four is asking God to be our provider in all things, as only he can do.
 - a) "Bread" in Scripture refers to more than food, but to all the basic human "needs" of life.
 - b) "This day/today" places emphasis on our immediate situation, directing us to rely on God for every need.
 - c) Petition Four echoes the "bread from heaven" theme that runs throughout the biblical story.

Exod. 16:4 – "Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not."

Deut. 8:2-3 – "you shall remember the whole way that the Lord your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord."

John 6:48-51 – "I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ... I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

- 2) Petition Four offers us important teachings on a biblical view of daily life.
 - a) This petition reminds us that to be human is to be utterly dependent on God's gracious provision.
 - b) This petition requires us to position ourselves properly before God.
 - c) God is teaching us to pray for specific needs in our daily lives.
 - d) We pray for "our" daily bread, which means we pray for the basic needs of others.
 - e) This petition directs us be content with little, as the Lord gives to us by his assignment.

1 Tim. 6:6-10 – ⁶ But godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷ For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. ⁸ But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.

- 3) By praying Petition Four, we are asking our Father to be our complete Provider – body and soul.

Response

Our prayer life – and Christian life – should reflect the truth that God is our provision, and we are utterly dependent upon him.

Small Group Questions for Matthew 6:11 (Lord's Prayer Series)

February 9, 2020

Pastor Mickey Klink

- 1) Starter Question: How often do you think of your daily provisions (food, clothes, shelter) as a direct gift from God?
- 2) How might it be more difficult for modern Christians, who shop at Walmart or Amazon, to connect their provisions to their Creator, than it is for those who more directly draw forth their provisions from creation?
- 3) Reflecting on v. 11, in what ways might the word “bread” refer to all basic provisions for human life?
- 4) How does the qualification “this day/today” affect the force of the prayer?
- 5) What does this petition teach us about our dependence on God?
- 6) What can you think of that you have or have received that does not come from God’s gracious provision?
- 7) Read Deut. 8:2-3. Why did God give bread to his people in the wilderness one day at a time?
- 8) Read John 6:48-51. How does Jesus’ statement here extend further the truth that God is the one who provides “bread” for his people?
- 9) How might this petition teach you to be more aware of and grateful for God’s gracious provisions in your life?
- 10) Since this petition directs us to pray for our needs, what provisions do you need and how can your small group pray for you?

Further study this week: Key biblical texts on God’s provision: Exodus 16 (Mon); Matthew 6:25-34 (Tues); James 1:17 (Wed); 1 Corinthians 4 (Thurs); 1 Timothy 6:6-10 (Fri)