

Our Daily Bread

Introduction

Where We've Been

We've spent the last few weeks talking about the context of why prayer is important, how to approach God when entering, setting our hearts in line with God (thy kingdom come, thy will be done). Tonight we are going to unpack "Give us today our daily bread"

My love of food

I have to admit, to those who know me it wasn't surprising I chose this particular passage to speak on. You see, I have a deep admiration for food. It's one of my all time favorite past times. This past year LaDawna and I celebrated our 10 year anniversary. As we were planning I agreed to let her indulge in a LOT of shopping, but I got to choose where we ate for each meal. And given we were in Las Vegas, let me tell you I was THRILLED. Even with my job I get to travel and a good amount of trip prep is scouting out the local flavors.

John Pinnette - Salad is not the meal...

Context of who the audience was

Primarily Jewish

Matt 4:23

Jesus was going throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom

When they heard the word bread and provision they immediately thought of God's provision in the desert just after leaving Egypt

In biblical times the term bread included all foods. In this context it stands for all a person needs to sustain life. While the prayer asks God to "give," this does not imply that we're relieved of the responsibility to work for what we receive. God supplied manna to the Exodus generation on a daily basis, yet each person was required to gather what God had placed on the ground.

Youngblood, Ronald F. ; Bruce, F. F. ; Harrison, R. K. ; Thomas Nelson Publishers: Nelson's New Illustrated Bible Dictionary. Nashville : T. Nelson, 1995

Exodus 16:1b-4a

on the fifteenth day of the second month after their departure from the land of Egypt. 2 The whole congregation of the sons of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. 3 The sons of Israel said to them,

"aWould that we had died by the Lord's hand in the land of Egypt, bwhen we sat by the pots of meat, when we ate bread to the full; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

4 Then the Lord said to Moses, "Behold, al will rain bread from heaven for you;..."

Learn to Trust

Trust flows out of relationship

Faith is a daily walk, knowing just enough to take the next step

Illustration: Levi jumping off changing dresser

Relationships are hard work. they take time. It is worded Daily, not just on Wednesdays and Sundays.

Imagine a church where when we got together everyone was spiritually well fed.

Lack of trust leads to worry and anxiety

Matt 6:25-34

25 ^a“For this reason I say to you, ¹do not be ^bworried about your ²life, as to what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? **26** ^a“Look at the birds of the ¹air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they? **27** “And who of you by being ^aworried can ^badd a *single* ¹hour to his ²life? **28** “And why are you ^aworried about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin, **29** yet I say to you that not even ^aSolomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these. **30** “But if God so clothes the ^agrass of the field, which is *alive* today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, *will He* not much more *clothe* you? ^bYou of little faith! **31** “Do not ^aworry then, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear for clothing?’ **32** “For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for ^ayour heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. **33** “But ¹seek first ²His kingdom and His righteousness, and ^aall these things will be ³added to you. **34** “So do not ^aworry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will ¹care for itself. ²Each day has enough trouble of its own.

If you never exercise faith, you will never learn to trust

Worry - Illustration: LaDawna “Leo, you are not my provider”

In a pit with a lion, story of Benaiah

By Faith...

8 By faith ^aAbraham, when he was called, obeyed ¹by going out to a place which he was to ^breceive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going.

As you learn to trust, you must then learn to be content with what your are given.

Learn to be Content

Go back to the provision of mana.

Our Daily Bread

Need vs. Want: What’s your prayer focus

Exodus 16:4-5

Then the Lord said to Moses, “Behold, ^aI will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a day’s portion every day, that I may ^btest them, whether or not they will walk in My ¹instruction. **5** ^a“On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily.”

Gave them what they needed to survive.

He also gives our wants when aligned with His will (as Ryan so eloquently pointed out last week)

Where is your Focus?

Store up your treasures in heaven.

this is counter cultural

Prov 30:8-9

Give me neither poverty nor riches; Feed me with the ^afood that is my portion, ⁹That I not be ^afull and deny ^bYou and say, "Who is the Lord?" Or that I not be ^cin want and steal, And ^dprofane the name of my God.

Illustration: \$300 Jeans

I found myself wanting some very name brand jeans a few weeks back
Buying a new home

No Matter the Circumstances

Philippians 4:11

I've learned by now to be quite content whatever my circumstances. I'm just as happy with little as with much, with much as with little. I've found the recipe for being happy whether full or hungry, hands full or hands empty. Whatever I have, wherever I am, I can make it through anything in the One who makes me who I am. (MSG)

Content - Also translated as "self-sufficient"

Israelites still had to work/gather their food

2 Thess 3:10-12

10 Don't you remember the rule we had when we lived with you? "If you don't work, you don't eat." 11 And now we're getting reports that a bunch of lazy good-for-nothings are taking advantage of you. 12 This must not be tolerated. We command them to get to work immediately—no excuses, no arguments—and earn their own keep. (MSG)

So how can I learn to be content?

Learn to be Generous

Generosity breeds contentment

Can you give it away? money? time?

1 Tim 6:17-19

17 Instruct those who are rich in ^athis present world ^bnot to be conceited or to ^cfix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, ^dwho richly supplies us with all things to enjoy. **18** *Instruct them* to do good, to be rich in ^agood ¹works, ^bto be generous and ready to share, **19** ^astoring up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may ^btake hold of that which is life indeed.

It's ok to have money or be well off. but guard your heart.

Be generous

Christmas season is around the corner. buy someone else's kids gifts this year

Go on a missions trip

Start giving regularly (make online giving plug)

Volunteer in the nursery

Just serve - what are you good at? what do you do for a living? how can you give that to God and His church?

Closing

So what? Now what?

We're looking at prayer

as you pray this week pray...

To grow in your relationship with God, feed your self the "bread" God has provided

For faith to trust God to be your provider
For to learn to be content with what God has given you; it really is a conscious effort
For ways to be generous with time and money