

The Lord's Prayer: Praying with Confidence Asking For Daily Bread

Daily Bread. The idea is to ask God for bread for a day and no more. One day at a time, one meal at a time, one provision at a time. Trust God for today.

With this request made of God, the Lord's Prayer seems to take an abrupt change of direction. A very simple outline of the Lord's prayer is to talk to God about God and then talk to God about yourself. We began with the lofty address of calling God, our Father and asking for His name to be made holy, His Kingdom come, His will be done.

After beginning the prayer with such a lofty approach to God, this aspect of the prayer can feel self-centered. What happened to the great start of honoring God? Look at it this way: This section of the prayer does not set God aside or diminish Him in any way. God is exalted here. Your heavenly Father is the one who can meet your daily needs. God has the desire and the ability to care for you on a daily basis.

This should tell you that your needs are a concern to God. Even your most basic needs. Even those things that you can take care of yourself, such as daily bread.

God is interested in the most basic, ordinary, routine moments of your life.

You might be in a situation where you don't need to concern yourself with daily bread...or housing...or clothing. Your most basic needs are met. Food, shelter, clothing – you have all you need.

Is this prayer less relevant for you than for others? This is one of those times when you can be tempted to dismiss a section of Scripture as having relevance in the Ancient World but not your world today. Is there anyone who does NOT need to pray this prayer?

Everyone needs to take this piece of the Lord's Prayer and incorporate it into your daily prayer life.

Praying for daily bread teaches you that your most basic needs have a spiritual dimension.

Your Heavenly Father cares about your personal, practical, material needs.

Here's a challenge we face in our culture today: It feels like we do sacred things such as read the Bible, pray, go to Church. It can also feel like we do secular or non-sacred things such as go to work, eat meals, watch TV, hobbies.

You might be tempted to think that there are specific segments of your life that are of interest to God and the other stuff doesn't really matter. Your Heavenly Father is interested in all of your life because...

He's interested in you.

Praying for daily bread increases your dependence upon God and helps to decrease your independence from God – which we all battle. We all have a natural pull toward self-reliance. Praying for and giving thanks for daily bread helps to diminish your self-reliant tendencies.

This has been God's desire for His people for a very long time.

Exodus 16:1-30 is a must read because it's the foundation of the prayer for daily bread.

One of your very real needs is to be able to pray this prayer in devotion to and trust in God. This prayer has just as much relevance for the rich person as it does for the poor person because it deals with our need to trust God.