

## "The Lord's Prayer: A Prayer To Say"

### "The Father Who Answers Prayer, Delights To Provide For His Children Pt. 2"

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Last week we began the teaching in our series: (reference the subtitle)

Matthew 6.11 – *Give us this day our daily bread...*

- Some translations read: Give us this day our bread for tomorrow!
- Asking in this passage is not a one-time thing... it's ask and keep on asking.
- It's a way of living!
- Understanding this part of the prayer requires a fundamental knowledge of several things we should already know (or we need to know) about God.

Reference: the story of Bishop Grannum...

Review the take away:

Small-minded thinking asks, "Is God able to take care of me?"

Small-minded thinking views our problems with a Limiting perspective!

Small-minded thinking reveals that we really have no idea to whom we are praying!

*"Do not fear little flock, it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."* - Luke 12:32 NKJV

Lets continue with part 2 today as we consider:

### Five things We Need to Know when praying to our Father:

1. You are praying to a father who has an unbroken record of providing.
2. You are praying to a father who is unchangeable concerning His promise to provide.
3. You are praying to a father who has unlimited power to provide.
4. You are praying to a father whose resources to provide are unsearchable.
5. You are praying to a father whose love for His children is unrelenting.

### A Miraculous Account of Provision in the Old Testament

The Apostle Paul informs us Romans 15:4 this story is intended to instruct us in God's ways.

Romans 15.4 *For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.*

Lets look at an account in the Old Testament to learn what God's provision looks like.

First, let's look at the "back story"

- The mixed multitude are complaining bitterly about not having meat to eat
- Moses is angry and discouraged
- God is angry and provoked
- He tells Moses that He will provide so much meat, they can eat for thirty days
- Moses actually questions God's ability to do it

### Moses's Account of the Events

Numbers 11.18 – 24 God brings quail from the sea

Number 11.31 – 35

### The Psalmist's Account of the Events

Psalm 78.26 – 29

How did God the Father provide for the Israel in the wilderness?

This is just one single instance of an event that took two days!

Lets break out some details so that we can apply this story to our text... 'Give us this day our daily bread'

(Note: the following numbers are for our reference and can be found several places online)

Moses and the people were in the desert so common sense would tell us they had to be fed.

Most scholars estimate their numbers to be around **2 or 3 million people**, which means they would need a lot of food.

Someone asked the Quartermaster General of the Army to calculate how much food that many people would have needed every day. He determined that Moses would have needed

- **1500 tons of food each day** to feed the Israelites.
- To bring that much food each day, would have required **two freight trains, each a mile long.**

Remember, they were out in the desert, so they would have to have firewood to use in cooking the food.

- This would take **4000 tons of wood** and a few more freight trains, each a mile long, just for one day. And just think, they were forty years in transit.

They would also require water. Lets assume they only had enough to drink, cook and wash a few dishes...

- it would take **11,000,000 gallons each day...** and a freight train with tank cars, 3 miles long, just to bring water!

A larger factor was a camping location...

- Each time they camped at the end of the day, a campground **two-thirds the size of the state of Rhode Island** was required.
- That is a total area of **750 square miles.** Think of it... this space was just for nightly camping!

So that you can understand the magnitude of the miracle in our story... Lets go even deeper:

The passage says there were 600,000 men + women and children = **2.5 million people**

- The quail was blown in on either side of the camp a days journey
  - o As a man could walk
  - o Roughly about **15 miles**
- The quail was 2 cubits deep
  - o About **3 feet**
- The least that anyone gathered was 10 homers
  - o **1 homer = 11 bushels**
  - o So the least that was gathered is around **110 bushels**
- There was enough for them to have meat for 30 days!

Do you think Moses figured all this out before he left Egypt? I think not! You see, Moses believed in God, and God took care of these things for him.

Think about it... Moses had no idea how God was going to feed the people. Every crisis required him to ask God to do something. He had no idea that he was going to be in the desert for forty years! It was only 11 days journey from Mt Seir to Kadesh Barnea.

360 days x 40 years = **14,400 days**

Now, do you still think God has any problem taking care of all your needs?

This story and these numerical factors should convince us that God has no problem taking care of all or our needs.

(See Handout)

WITH THIS BACKDROP on Matthew 6.11, LET'S LOOK AT:

## FIVE CRITICAL THINGS WE NEED TO KNOW WHEN WE ARE PRAYING THIS PART OF THE PRAYER

### 1. His Record is Unbroken

- Ps. 145.16 *He is the source of food for all creation.*
- Gods provision of quail would indicate that He is not a vegetarian (joke)

### 2. His Promise is Unchangeable

- Jehovah Jira and He cannot lie!
- Numbers 23.19 *God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent; Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?*
- Hebrew 6.18 (AMP) *This was so that, by two unchangeable things (His promise and His oath) in which it is impossible for God ever to prove false or deceive us, we who have fled (to Him) for refuge might have mighty indwelling strength and strong encouragement to grasp and hold fast the hope appointed for us and set before (us).*
- Malachi 3.6
- Titus 1.2

### 3. His Ability is Unlimited

- Based on His power, His omnipotence
- Genesis 18.13 – 14 *And the LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, saying, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, when I am so old?' 14 "Is anything too difficult for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you, at this time next year, and Sarah will have a son."*
- Numbers 11.23 (NASB) *...Is My arm too short?*
- Ps. 78.26-29 *He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens And by His power He directed the south wind. 27 When He rained meat upon them like the dust, Even winged fowl like the sand of the seas, 28 Then He let them fall in the midst of their camp, Round about their dwellings. 29 So they ate and were well filled, And their desire He gave to them.*
- Jeremiah 32.17 *'Ah Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and by Your outstretched arm! Nothing is too difficult for You,*
- Romans 4.21
- Luke 1.37 *For nothing will be impossible with God*
- Romans 4.21

### 4. His Riches are Unsearchable

- Philippians 4.19 *And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.*
- Ephesians 3:8, 16
- Ephesians 1:7
- Ephesians 2:7
- Psalm 31:19
- 2 Corinthians 8:9 *For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich.*

### 5. His Love for His Children is Unrelenting

- Your father knows what you have need of before you ask Him
- o Matthew 6.8 / Matthew 6.32
- Matthew 7.9 – 11 *"Or what man is there among you who, when his son asks for a loaf, will give him a stone? 10 "Or if he asks for a fish, he will not give him a snake, will he? 11 "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him!*

- How much more shall your Heavenly father give good gifts to those who ask
- **Romans 8.31-32** *What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us? 32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?*
- **Ephesians 3.19**

**Things we need to know:**

- He's the Father who always keeps his promises to his children
  - o **Matt 7.9 – 11**
  - o **Romans 8.31 – 32**
- In His kingdom, sufficiency is more than enough!
  - o **John 6.12**
- He's the Father Who wants us to understand that all prayer has "preconditions"
  - o When you stand praying, if you have anything against
    - Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors...
  - o Asking the Father to give to us, should be accompanied by His instruction that we give also.
  - o Give! And it shall be given to you
  - o If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me
- o **Deuteronomy 8:1 – 3** *"All the commandments that I am commanding you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land which the LORD swore to give to your forefathers. 2 "You shall remember all the way which the LORD your God has led you in the wilderness these forty years, that He might humble you, testing you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not.*

Did god make a promise to Debbie concerning a child  
- Debbie interpreted

**Some Points:**

- You need to know whom you're praying to...
- You need to know what His resources are...
- You need to know what His ability is...
- You need to know how much He loves His children...
- You need to know how faithful He is...