



The Provision of Prayer

Robert Morris

Focus God wants us to ask Him daily for His natural *and* spiritual provision.

Open What's your favorite kind of bread?

Read The Lord's Prayer is a pattern that teaches us how to pray. The verse to memorize for this week is Matthew 6:11: "Give us this day our daily bread."

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.

Talk

1. Practice reciting Matthew 6:9–11 together as a group. Say it together out loud.
2. What is the “daily bread” God has provided for you today? Say out loud or write in a list all the needs He has met for you today. Take a moment as a group to thank God for His provision.
3. God’s provision sometimes comes as He blesses our hard work. What do you enjoy about your work?
4. Pastor Robert mentioned that if we don’t depend on God for provision, we’ll look somewhere else. What are some examples of ways we look for provision without depending on God? Why do you think we do this?
5. What is the most recent “spiritual bread” God has given you? Share a verse from the Bible or word of encouragement He spoke to you as you were praying.

Live

Use your journal in your prayer times this week to help you develop the habit of asking God for your daily bread. Write down each day the needs you are asking Him to meet. Then write prayers of thanksgiving as He provides for you. Also write the words, or spiritual bread, He gives you.

Pray

Lord, we thank You for providing exactly what we need, every day. Father, we praise You that You are a loving, faithful, giving God. Give us this day our daily bread. Lord, teach us to pray.