

Growing in Prayer by Learning from the Model Prayer: *Praying for God's Daily Provision and Blessing!*

Text: Matthew 6:9-11, 25-27; Deuteronomy 8:2-4; 17-20; Proverbs 30:7-9

Introduction:

Read [Matthew 6:25-27](#)

1. My in-laws, Earl and Carol Stuckey, were married in 1947. As best mom could remember, she was making about \$40 an hour where she worked, taking home a little less than \$15.00 a week.
 1. They bought the house my wife, Susan, grew up in for \$10,000 back in 1955. Dad was making about \$1.00 an hour and their house payment on the home that included appliances, was about \$55.00 a month.
 2. The payment jumped to \$60.00 a month a few years later and they worried about how they would get by.
 3. By 1980, Dad was making \$10.00 an hour plus overtime; with no house payment things were good, but their lifestyle remained simple with all their true needs more than met and giving to the Lord a top priority.
 4. When Dad retired in 1989, he was making about \$40,000 a year with overtime. They had no debt, a decent retirement income and every need met by the God they served.
 5. The house they bought in 1955 for \$10,000, a small 900 square foot house that they had added on some 300 square feet or so, sold for \$56,000 in 1995.
2. Numbers like that amaze us today, especially in California. We can't imagine making \$1.00 an hour, unless you were working on a garbage truck for a \$1 an hour and all you could eat.
3. Realize that all these numbers are very relevant to the cost of everything else in that era.
 1. Few women worked outside the home once children came along and really the quality of life was very good.
 2. Things were simpler in 1955. Only the rich had more than one television or car or even air conditioning.
4. Our struggle in America today is over what constitutes true need from our *out-of-control* wants and desires. That brings us to our topic of the day from the Lord's Prayer; praying for our daily needs.
5. We need to review what we have studied so far from the model prayer of Jesus & get a new piece of it today. Read [Matthew 6:9-11](#).
6. For the next three weeks, we are going to be discussing "US" issues as we pray, asking the *Heavenly Father with the holy name* to help US. Today we will uncover praying for our very sustenance.
7. **Prop. : "The Almighty God of the universe wants to provide for your daily needs and more while asking that you simply recognize Him as the source."**
8. **Trans.:** There are two postures that we should take when approaching the God of heaven and earth that are both important to never forget as we pray. The first posture is this:

I. Pray to the Almighty God as a humble creature of need

1. We can be so arrogant and ignorant at times before the Awesome Creator of the universe
 1. Our Heavenly Father already knows every one of our needs, so let us approach Him humbly
 2. Jesus made this clear just before He gave the model prayer – [Matthew 6:7-8](#)
 3. For emphasis, the Lord reminds them again of the omniscience of the Father – [Matthew 6:32](#)
2. The problem is that WE are the ones that don't understand our true needs any more
 1. As we can see from this ancient scripture, this has always been a struggle – [Proverbs 30:7-9](#)
 2. What a wonderful, humble prayer that should be uttered from our lips still today
 3. But even some 3000 years ago, there was an obvious struggle with needs verse luxuries
3. Humility NEVER comes easy for us; look at these words of Moses in the Law - [Deuteronomy 8:2-4](#)
 1. After the ten plagues, the parting of the Red Sea & Egypt's army destroyed, Israel still whined
 2. God sent them manna from heaven each day, but they still whined for even more!
 3. Even though they continued to grumble against God & not obey Him completely, He provided
 4. ***They had bread to eat, their clothes never wore out; they had extraordinarily good health, but they still didn't learn that God was their source of life and that the words of His mouth would sustain them!***
4. Today, we need to carefully remember that God is the true source of America's wealth & prosperity

1. This same God was the same supplier of the wealth to ancient Israel & its very existence today
2. Here are more words of Moses once again that ring so true today - **Deuteronomy 8:17-20**
3. We have abundance and prosperity in America like no other nation on earth thanks to this GOD!
5. My growing fear is our arrogance will continue to increase & this God will send more judgments
 1. September 11, 2001, Hurricane Katrina & more SHOULD be wake-up calls, but we ignore them
 2. Our politicians talk about “asking for prayer” but to which god? There is only ONE God
 3. When we pray the Lord’s Prayer or say any prayer, let us humbly, “*Ask it in the Name of Jesus*”
6. As we pray *give us this day our daily bread*, let us be humble but we don’t have to stay that way always
 - 1.

II. Pray to your Heavenly Father as a dependant, happy child

1. Humility is vital, but so is confidence in our position before this Holy God - **Matthew 6:9b-11**
 1. After we realize that everything is from the hand of Almighty God, remember who He is to us
 2. We can also stand there with big, thankful smiles and say, “*Thanks Dad for all you do for me!*”
 3. Tell your Heavenly Father what a great Father He is and how much you enjoy what He does
2. As happy, satisfied children of God, we need to take our every concern to Him – **Luke 11:9-13**
 1. There is nothing too little or too big to bring before your loving Heavenly Father
 2. God will provide for our physical needs, but also provides the Holy Spirit for the spiritual ones
 3. The Holy Spirit will meet and fill up every spiritual need of His children. WAY COOL!
 4. So, you can figure out how to give something good to your kids; well God will do even better!
3. Now the HUGE problem here is our seeking more stuff instead of being content
 1. It is possible to find contentment according to the Apostle Paul – **Philippians 4:10-13**
 2. Paul was secure in this God, placed his faith in God completely, not in fleeting riches
 3. And we, too, **can do everything through Him, Christ, who give us strength**, but not without faith
 4. And not when we grip the stuff of this life so tight, forgetting our true Sustainer and Provider
4. Let us seek God with a whole heart, tithing to Him, praying to Him, worshipping Him, thanking Him

Conclusion:

1. When you come to truly understand how much God loves you and wants to care for you, it will give you a new sense of security and well-being that transcends the human experience.
2. It starts when you ask Jesus, the ONLY Son of this God, to become your Lord and Savior. You then go through a simple process to become born-again.
3. Once that is done, you will receive the Holy Spirit as a down payment for what is yet to come.
4. At your physical death or the Rapture, all of your needs will begin to be met in a new and exciting way. You will experience the total absence of need. Daily bread will no longer be a concern.
5. While that sounds too incredible to believe, it is only the beginning for us. Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead proving that you and I will rise just as He did.
6. Now it is up to you. It is your decision to accept or reject this great love of the Heavenly Father.
7. As we stand and sing this next song, why not come forward to find out more about Jesus. Already born-again and/or need prayer? Then you are invited to come as well.
8. Come right now as we all stand and sing.