

The Ministry of Prayer XII

*"This then is how you should pray...
give us today our daily bread."*

We have been looking at prayer that produces results in our lives. Jesus specified a prayer place in Matthew six and he also taught us how to pray. In this devotional we are looking at the cry of our heart for provision. Every person who has ever lived has needs. Some of our needs are physical and some are spiritual. It's good to know that Jesus is concerned about both, although you and I at times are more concerned about our physical needs.

Here in what we call "The Lord's Prayer" we find that Jesus encourages us to pray for daily bread. Bread in the Bible is a symbol of food. One of the verses that I learned growing up was Psalm 37:25, "I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging for bread." I love to quote that because of the truth contained in it. As we become more and more loving toward God and his ways there is a blessing transferred to our lives. When you walk in righteousness, you have provision. I remember how Israel left their home of comfort for a long trip through the desert to the land that the Lord was to give them. Every morning there was a white flakey substance called manna waiting on the ground for them to gather and make cakes out of. Psalm 78:25 says, "Men ate the bread of angels; he sent them all the food they could eat." As they followed the Lord, the Lord provided abundantly. Think back across your life, you may have had some tough times but as you have been faithful to him, he has been faithful to you. Let's not fear what the world fears. Let's pray as the Lord instructed us and believe that he will provide for our physical needs.

Another way that the Lord feeds us is spiritually. The Lord asks in Isaiah 55, "Why spend money on what is not bread and labor for what does not satisfy?" Jesus says to his disciples in John six, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never grow hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty." Jesus calls us to a relationship like no other. Many relationships deplete you but Jesus promises to fill you. Your soul needs to be as nourished as your physical body. Many people are more than physically tired, they are spiritually exhausted and don't know it. Rest all you want, when your soul is tired, you will never feel refreshed. Get refreshed in Jesus today...how about every day. Jesus did say daily. He promises a full meal for the soul that needs replenished. Listen to this final verse on how to get more food for your soul. Jesus said, "Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God." God's word is soul manna. Let's eat today and be refreshed on the richest of fares!