

THE PRAYER OF DEPENDENCE
SERIES: CONNECTING WITH GOD: THE LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:11 (NIV) 'Give us today our daily bread.'

BREAD REPRESENTS SEVERAL THINGS IN THE BIBLE:

A. The necessities of life

Psalms 104:25 - 28 (LB) 'There before me lies the mighty ocean, teeming with life of every kind, both great and small.....Every one of these depends on you to give them daily food. You supply it, and they gather it. You open wide your hand to feed them and they are satisfied with all your bountiful provision.'

B. God's Word

Deuteronomy 8:3 (NIV) '.....man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.'

C. Salvation

Luke 22:19 (TEV) 'Then he took a piece of bread, gave thanks to God, broke it, and gave it to them saying, 'This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in memory of me.'

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO DEPEND ON GOD?

1. IT MEANS SEEING GOD AS MY SOURCE

Truths about God as our source:

A. It's all a gift

James 1:17 (NIV) 'Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights.....'

B. There's nothing I need that God can't provide

Philippians 4:19 (NIV) 'And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.'

2. IT MEANS TRUSTING GOD FOR TODAY

Matthew 6:11 (NIV) 'Give us TODAY our DAILY bread.'

God wants us to trust him one day at a time

Philippians 4:6 & 8 (NLT) 'Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done.....Fix your thoughts on what is true and honorable and right. Think about things that are pure and lovely and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.'

FOUR STEPS TO TRUSTING GOD FOR TODAY----

A. Worry about nothing

Matthew 6:34 (LB) 'So don't be anxious about tomorrow. God will take care of your tomorrow too. Live one day at a time.'

When we worry we're acting like we don't have a spiritual Father in heaven who cares.

B. Pray about everything

We've got two choices: we can worry or we can pray

Romans 8:32 (LB) 'Since he did not spare even his own Son for us but gave him up for us all, won't he also surely give us everything else?'

C. Thank God in all things

Psalms 71:15 (LB) 'I cannot count the times when you have faithfully rescued me from danger. I will tell everyone how good you are, and of your constant, daily care.'

D. Think about right things

Isaiah 26:3 (LB) 'He will keep in perfect peace all those who trust in him, whose thoughts turn often to the Lord!'

CONCLUSION:

The prayer of dependence tells us we should see God as our source because everything we have comes from him, it is all a gift from him. Because of that we are to trust him one day at a time by worrying about nothing, praying about everything, thanking him in all things, and keeping our minds on the right things.