

Alone Time with God

Session 3

V11 "Give us this day our daily bread."

"Give us this day...not this month, not this year.

Why does the Lord want us to pray day by day? **Because prayer, in and of itself, is our greatest need.**

As we pray this section of the prayer, **we express ultimate dependence upon God.**

Jesus wants his followers **to be conscious of a day-to-day dependence.**

The Lord wants you and me to come to Him every day, because we have need of Him.

This is concerning my own daily needs, both **spiritually** and **physically**. **I am taught here to acknowledge my entire dependence on God for the supply of my daily necessities.**

I recognize that it all comes from You. **It all comes from my "Abba Father."**

He said, "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more shall your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him." (Matt 7:11)

Ask God every single day to provide food; to provide the daily needs of our family. Ask God for the food, clothing, and shelter we need.

This is an expression of our heart. We're saying, "God, it doesn't matter how much food we have in the refrigerator. If it's full, Lord, I am not depending on that today for my daily bread. **I trust You for my daily bread and I honor You in that way.**

I recognize that it all comes from You.

Jesus said, "But **seek first** His kingdom and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added to you." (Matt. 6:33).

Jesus had just said, "Do not worry about your life, what you will **eat** or what you will **drink**; nor about your **body**, what you will **put on**."

If we pray "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done", then as we seek the kingdom of God, He promises "these things" shall be added.

V12 "And forgive us our debts..." (Forgive me my sins)

This part of the prayer **condemns** all **self-righteousness** and **self-justifying**. We are instructed to keep up a continual habit of confession at the throne of grace, and a continual habit of seeking mercy and remission.

This is a daily prayer where I, on a daily basis, am confessing my sin to God and asking for His forgiveness. I confess it and repent and **then I talk it through with Him.**

Do we understand what sin does?

(It's sin that separates us from fellowship with our Father).

Do we understand the cost of sin? (The cross)

This Scripture encourages us in confession and repentance:
“Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.” (Psalm 139:23-24)

May I keep a short account with God.

It is good to understand that there are 2 types of guilt:

False guilt and true guilt.

Often people will struggle with false guilt as they try to pray.

False guilt: is general in nature and has Satan as its source.

Satan, **the accuser of the brethren**, accuses us **in general terms**.

He whispers in our ears, “You are no good.” How can you pray? You are not worthy.”

The one who listens to such accusations will always struggle in prayer.

Only Jesus is worthy.

Our access to God is never based on the worthiness of man; our access is based on the blood of Jesus. It is only by grace that we can approach God.

True guilt: many feel guilty when they pray **because they are guilty**. The difference between an accusation of Satan and conviction from the Holy Spirit is this; **Satan’s accusation is general, thus repentance is impossible.**

The Holy Spirit’s conviction is specific and leads to repentance. Confession of sin is the result of the light of God shining in our hearts.

When there is sincere confession and true repentance, there will be a release of the rivers of grace upon the soul.

These are great Scriptures to pray:

Isaiah 59:1-2, *“Behold, the Lord’s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; nor His ear heavy, that it cannot hear. But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.”*

Psalm 86:5, *“For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive, and abundant in mercy to all those who call upon You.”*

Psalm 107:12, *“As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.”*

Psalm 86:15, *“But You, O Lord, are a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering and abundant in mercy and truth.”*

Psalm 145:8, *“The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and great in mercy.”*

Psalm 66:18-19, *“If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear. But certainly God has heard me; He has attended to the voice of my prayer.”*

Lamentations 3:22-23, *“Through the Lord’s mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.”*

Isaiah 43:25, *“I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My sake; and I will not remember your sins.”*

“...as we forgive our debtors.” (those who have sinned against me)

This is to remind us that we must not expect our prayers for forgiveness to be heard if we pray with malice and spite in our hearts toward others.

On a daily basis forgive people of the sin that they committed against us in the previous 24 hours. Then, we won't have this stuff attached to us for a week or months or for years. Becoming bitter or angry, and wanting revenge, begins to take a toll on us spiritually.

People will fall short, as we fall short. We need to forgive them every day.

We need God's forgiveness on a daily basis. We need to forgive on a daily basis.

V13 “lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.”

This request is concerning my weakness. It teaches me that I am liable at anytime to be led astray or to fall.

“Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

For all that is in the world – the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life – is not of the Father but is of the world.”(I John 2:15-16)

“Keep me from dwelling on these things. Don't let me be drawn into these things; the temptations that are all around me. Please stay close to me.”

Temptation usually follows this pattern:

It begins in our minds-

1. Simple thought of evil (initially we may not recognize it as an evil thought)
2. Dwelling on the thought
3. Beginning to delight in the thought, thinking of ways it might be fulfilled
4. Making the decision to fulfill the desire of that thought (now the temptation has culminated in actually sinning)

This Scripture instructs me to confess my weakness and beseech God to hold me up, not allowing me to run into sin. This is asking God to keep me from “new” sins.

I am asking to never let me be tempted beyond what I can bear. *“No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.” (1 Corinthians 10:13).*

Psalm 19:14, “Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer.”

Please put a watch over my mouth.

Psalm 141:3-4, “Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips. Do not incline my heart to any evil thing.”

I am acknowledging **my complete dependence on the Lord for preservation**, to watch over and keep me.

I am taught here to ask God to deliver me from the evil that is in the world, the evil that is within my heart, and from the evil one, the devil.

"I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one." (John 17:15)

'Do not allow us to be led into such temptation that it overwhelms us, but rescue us from the evil one'.

This seems to be saying, "It is the devil who is in view, who tempts God's people to sin, and from whom we need to be 'rescued.'"

Each morning as we pray, we need to realize we are heading out to a world that is not under God's submission.

We know that there is a god of this world who is called the devil and there will be all kinds of issues around us.

Before we leave our home and head out into the world, and before it comes into our lives, we acknowledge the possibility of temptation happening. So, that when it comes, it doesn't surprise us. This is so vital in regards to a victorious Christian life.

If we don't realize the battle is coming our way, an enemy can catch us by surprise very easily.

Each of us have weaknesses in our lives; struggles, greater temptations in certain areas, and we need to talk these things over with the Lord. It's a reminder to us.

In the Old Testament, when Joseph was tempted by Potiphar's wife, he ran. He didn't try to figure out what to do at the moment of temptation. It seems he had already determined in his heart what he would do.

How many people in the body of Christ, whose lives are not characterized by victory, keep falling for the same temptations and the same sin? Yet, they do not have a devotional life with the Lord?

We need to talk with the Lord daily about these temptations before the day begins. Ask for His strength before they happen.

This is important because, when we pray about these areas in our lives, He will answer our prayers.

He's going to help us in these areas of our lives and we need Him to help us every single day.

What we are doing when we pray this prayer is expressing our dependence upon God in every area of our human life.

“For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.”

I conclude by offering to Him my heart, and surrendering my day to Him, giving Him all honor and praise, and rejoicing that He is King of kings and Lord of lords.

Closing my alone time with God in this way reminds me that He has the authority and the power to answer my prayers. He is the Almighty God. He’s the creator of the heavens and the earth. He’s the creator of everything that is created.

He has the absolute authority to answer everything I’ve lifted up to Him in prayer, according to His will.

Praise be to our Father, which art in heaven.

The reading of God’s Word.

Psalm 119:18, “Open my eyes, that I may see wondrous things from Your law.

Ezra 7:10, “For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the Lord, and to do it, and to teach statutes and ordinances in Israel.”

Now, my heart is prepared to receive God’s word.

Thinking differently – The Bible is a Spiritual book

God’s Word is alive (Hebrews 4:12)

This is God’s message –

This is God speaking –

Claims to be alive –

From childhood unable to speak –

Meeting with God –

Have a two-way conversation with God

Respond –

Personally –

Correctly –

Using Questions to Respond to God

Is there in this verse a:

Promise to claim? Sin to avoid? Warning to heed? Command to obey? Good example to follow? Bad example to shun? New thought about God the Father? New thought about God the Son? New thought about God the Holy Spirit? Fresh insight into the person of Satan? Fresh insight into Satan’s cruel goals? Fresh insight into Satan’s subtle devices?

For more information about meeting/responding to the Lord through His Word, go to:

www.calvarycurriculum.com

You can find more teaching on this subject in the Audio Training and Teaching section.

Also go to: www.CCIM-media.com. Free downloads of the book *Food For Faith and Your Quest for God*, by Dr Richard A. Bennett.