

**Matthew 6:11:** Give us this day our daily bread

**Intro:** 4<sup>th</sup> petition; The 1<sup>st</sup> petition we ask something for ourselves; First 3 – His holiness, reign, will; Your passion?

- Our loving, gracious, all-powerful, all-knowing heavenly Father will always provide exactly what we need, the exact time when we need it, and the exact way we need it. **In the BIG & in the small!** Do you believe this?

- **Hymn:** Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father; There is no shadow of turning with Thee

Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not; As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be

Great is Thy faithfulness, great is Thy faithfulness; Morning by morning new mercies I see

All I have needed Thy hand hath provided; Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me! Related to last 3–1 Cor 10:31

- 1. Our Father Is Our Great Provider; 2. We Are Needy Children; 3. Our Father Gives Us Just What We Need;

4. We Are Responsible To Work Hard And Pursue Our Father In Heaven

### **1. Our Father Is Our Great Provider**

**WLC 193:** We pray [give us this day our daily bread] waiting upon the providence of God from day to day for our needs

**Providence: WCF 5.1:** God the great Creator of all things does uphold, direct, dispose, and govern all creatures, actions, and things, from the greatest even to the least, by His most wise and holy providence, according to His infallible foreknowledge, and the free and immutable counsel of His own will, to the praise of the glory of His wisdom, power, justice, goodness, and mercy.

**WLC 18:** What are the works of providence? **A.** God's works of providence are his most holy, wise, and powerful preserving and governing all his creatures; ordering them, and all their actions, to his own glory.

**Question 27 of the Heidelberg Catechism:** What do you understand by the providence of God?

**Answer:** The almighty, everywhere-present power of God, whereby, as it were, by his hand, he still upholds heaven & earth with all creatures & so governs them that herbs & grass, rain & drought, fruitful & barren years, meat & drink, health & sickness, riches & poverty, indeed, all things come not by chance, but by his fatherly hand.

**Piper:** God's providence is His wise and purposeful sovereignty.

- **Deuteronomy 2:7:** For the LORD your God has blessed you in all the work of your hands. He knows your going through this great wilderness. These forty years the LORD your God has been with you. You have lacked nothing.

- **Psalms 23:1:** The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

- **Psalms 145:13-20:** Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. The LORD is faithful in all his words and kind in all his works. <sup>14</sup> The LORD upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down. <sup>15</sup> The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season. <sup>16</sup> You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing. <sup>17</sup> The LORD is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works. <sup>18</sup> The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. <sup>19</sup> He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; he also hears their cry and saves them. <sup>20</sup> The LORD preserves all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy.

- **Philippians 4:19:** And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

- **Matthew 6:26:** Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

### **2. We Are Needy Children**

**WLC 193:** What do we pray for in the fourth petition? **A.** In the fourth petition (which is, Give us this day our daily bread), acknowledging, that in Adam, and by our own sin, we have forfeited our right to all the outward blessings of this life, and deserve to be wholly deprived of them by God, and to have them cursed to us in the use of them; and that neither they of themselves are able to sustain us, nor we to merit, or by our own industry to procure them; but prone to desire, get, and use them unlawfully – we pray!

**a. Acknowledging, that in Adam, & by our own sin, we have forfeited our right to all the outward blessings of this life, & deserve to be wholly deprived of them by God, & to have them cursed to us in the use of them:**

**Deuteronomy 28:15-22:** But if you will not obey the voice of the LORD your God or be careful to do all his commandments and his statutes that I command you today, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you. <sup>16</sup> Cursed shall you be in the city, and cursed shall you be in the field. <sup>17</sup> Cursed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. <sup>18</sup> Cursed shall be the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground, the increase of your herds and the young of your flock. <sup>19</sup> Cursed shall you be when you come in, and cursed shall you be when you go out. <sup>20</sup> "The LORD will send on you curses, confusion, and frustration in all that you undertake to do, until you are destroyed and perish quickly on account of the evil of your deeds, because you have forsaken me. <sup>21</sup> The LORD will make the pestilence stick to you until he has consumed you off the land that you are entering to take possession of it. <sup>22</sup> The LORD will strike you with wasting disease and with fever, inflammation and fiery heat, and with drought and with blight and with mildew. They shall pursue you until you perish.

**b. Acknowledging that neither outward blessings of themselves are able to sustain us: Matthew 4:4:** It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."

**c. Acknowledging that we are unable to merit any outward blessings: Genesis 32:10:** [Jacob] I am not worthy of the least of all the deeds of steadfast love and all the faithfulness that you have shown to your servant

**d. Acknowledging that we are unable by our own industry [strength] to procure any outward blessings: Jimmy Stewart (Movie: Shenandoah):** Lord, we cleared this land. We plowed it, sowed it, & harvested it. We cooked the harvest. It wouldn't be here, we wouldn't be eatin' it if we hadn't done it all ourselves. We worked dog-bone hard for every crumb & morsel, but we thank you just the same anyway, Lord, for the food we're about to eat.  
**GOSPEL!**

- **Deuteronomy 8:17-18:** Beware lest you say in your heart, 'My power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth.' You shall remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth

**JMac:** (1980 in U.S.) our crops will be worth \$61 billion dollars . . . the corn alone would fill two million jumbo hopper train cars that would stretch thirteen times back and forth across the United States.

- **1 Corinthians 4:7:** What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?

- **James 1:17:** Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

**e. Acknowledging that we are prone to desire, get, and use outward blessings unlawfully:**

- **Jeremiah 6:13:** For from the least to the greatest of them, everyone is greedy for unjust gain; and from prophet to priest, everyone deals falsely.

- **James 4:3:** You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.

The word "daily" points to us needing enough – not being greedy, not over eating, not having our belly as our god.

### **3. Our Father Gives Us And Others Just What We Need**

**a. WLC 193: We are praying for ourselves and others:** "Our" – corporate nature; care and love for others

**b. WLC 193: We are praying that our Father would freely give us our needs according to what He determines is best for us according to His fatherly wisdom: DeYoung:** Contentment; Thanksgiving; Dependence; **D. A. Carson:** We are praying for our needs, not our greeds!

**c. WLC 193: We are praying that we would enjoy a competent portion of them; and have the same continued and blessed unto us in our holy and comfortable use of them, and contentment in them; and be kept from all things that are contrary to our temporal support and comfort:**

- **Enjoyment - 1 Timothy 4:1-5:** Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared, who forbid marriage and require abstinence from foods that God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth. For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, for it is made holy by the word of God and prayer.

- **Contentment - 1 Timothy 6:6-11:** Now there is great gain in godliness with contentment, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs. But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness.

- **Give us what we need to keep us close to You (keep us from all things that are contrary to our temporal support and comfort) - Proverbs 30:8-9:** Remove far from me falsehood and lying; give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the food that is needful for me, lest I be full and deny you and say, "Who is the LORD?" or lest I be poor and steal and profane the name of my God.

#### **4. We Are Responsible To Work Hard And Pursue Our Father In Heaven**

**WLC 193:** We pray for our daily bread expecting to work for it "in the use of lawful means"

**Kevin DeYoung:** Give us this day our daily bread: "Our" points to us working and earning a living and that we are not stealing from someone else.

- **1 Timothy 5:8:** But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

- **2 Thessalonians 3:10-12:** For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. <sup>11</sup> For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. <sup>12</sup> Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.

- **Ephesians 4:28:** Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.

**In everything, pursue our Father: John 14:6 / John 6:33-35, 47-51:** For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." <sup>34</sup> They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." <sup>35</sup> Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst . . . <sup>47</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life. <sup>48</sup> I am the bread of life. <sup>49</sup> Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. <sup>50</sup> This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. <sup>51</sup> I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

Christ Jesus Is The Bread We Need  
Came Down From Heaven All To Feed  
The God-Man Spoke Through Word And Deed  
For Sinners He Would Die And Bleed  
Bore All God's Wrath As He Decreed  
Then Rose Alive So We'd Be Freed  
From Death And Sin From Weed To Greed  
So Trust Him Now And His Word Heed  
We Live For Him And By His Creed  
In Heaven Now He'll Intercede  
Our God Provides Our Every Need  
He's Satisfaction True, Indeed!