

Sovereign Grace Church

***“Our Daily Bread”* outline**

June 24, 2018

HC 125

We are considering Jesus' teaching as to how we should pray utilizing the Lord's Prayer as an example. In this prayer Jesus teaches us that we should pray that God would provide us with the basic necessities of life, i.e., our “daily bread.” Most of us have far more than the necessities of life. So much so in fact that this request may seem a bit strange! When has God ever NOT provided for our necessities?! We thank God for the food He provides at meal time....but do we really understand our continual need? Rugged independent Americans work hard for what they have....why should they thank God for what they themselves have provided?! It is surely good to work hard and make provisions for ourselves and our families....but it is very wrong and misguided to forget that the Source of our strength, vigor and mental focus comes from somewhere WAY beyond our natural abilities!

Materialists believe that matter/energy is all there is, has been or ever will be. Even though all of their experience informs them that matter cannot provide an explanation for itself....they refuse to acknowledge God....just because they can't SEE Him! It doesn't seem to dawn on them that they have never seen themselves either! Materialists are living proof that superior intelligence and education is no barrier to foolishness and gullibility! Today we are reminded that everything we utilize in our material sustenance is a marvelous gift from a Transcendent Triune Being. Gratitude is necessary to Life if Life is to be fully and truly Lived.

1. Meaning of the Request

- **“daily bread”**

- **“us” Isa. 58:7**

- **“this day”**

- **Getting requires Asking Matt 7:7-8**

- **Saving vs. Trusting I Jn 4:19; Lk 12: 19-21**

2. Purposes of the Request

- **that we recognize that God only is the Source of all things necessary to life**
Psm 104: 13-14; Ac 14: 15, 17

- **that we recognize that without God...nothing really matters...even our lives**
I Cor. 3: 7; Matt. 4: 4

- **that we recognize that God alone is worthy of Unqualified Trust**
Prov. 3: 5-7

3. Context of the Request

Matt. 6: 25-34; Jn. 4: 32, 34

Questions for Conversation and Reflection

- 1. Do you have some sort of savings plan for yourself or your family? Do you trust it? What are the limitations to your trust? Does not trusting in our physical security mean that we shouldn't care about it? Are savings plans an indication of our not trusting in God's daily provisions? If not, what does it mean?**
- 2. How do you pray that God would provide for your basic necessities? Is it possible to trust that God would provide for your physical necessities and then not work towards their provision? What is it that the lazy man doesn't understand about God's provisions? How does II Thess. 3: 10 play into our discussion?**
- 3. How should we respond to our irresponsible and very needy neighbor's during a time of real crisis? Should we put ourselves and our families at risk to make up for their foolish decisions? Why do we expect God to make up for our foolish decisions?! Is the command to love our neighbor qualified in any way?**