

# The Power of Prayer: God's Provision

# Matthew 6:9-13

**“This, then, is how you should pray: ‘Our Father in heaven,**

- 1. YOUR name be hallowed**
- 2. YOUR kingdom come,**
- 3. YOUR will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**
- 4. Give us today our daily bread**
- 5. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.**
- 6. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.””**

**Settle down**

# Matthew 6:8

“...your Father knows what you need before you ask him.”

# **Job 38:2**

**“Who is this that darkens counsel  
by words without knowledge?**

**Brace yourself like a man;**

**I will question you,  
and you shall answer me.”**

**Start with God**

1. YOUR name be hallowed
2. YOUR kingdom come,
3. YOUR will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

**Get perspective before talking  
to God about your needs.**

# Isaiah 57:15

“For thus says the high and exalted One  
Who lives forever, whose name is Holy,  
‘I dwell *on* a high and holy place,  
And *also* with the contrite and lowly of  
spirit I restore the crushed spirit of the  
humble and revive the courage of those  
with repentant hearts.’”

# Isaiah 66:1-2

“This is what the Lord says: ‘Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. Where is the house you will build for me? Where will my resting place be? Has not my hand made all these things, and so they came into being?’ declares the Lord.

These are the ones I look on with favor: those who are humble and contrite in spirit, and who tremble at my word.”

**Settle Down**

**Start with God**

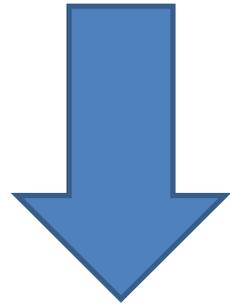
**Seek God about your needs**

**Give us**

**Forgive us**

**Deliver us**

# God's Provision



**“Give us today  
our daily bread”**

**A prayer that seems  
amazingly mundane**

**A prayer that feels  
distant to many**

**A battle we do not face?**

**(Matthew 6:25-34)**

**Trusting God**

**vs.**

**Anxiety about our needs**

## **Matthew 6:25, 31, 33**

**“...I say to you, do not be worried about your life, as to what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?**

**So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ .... But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”**

# **We face the same challenge in different ways**

## **Matthew 6:19-21**

**“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**

**When we pray...**

**“Give us today  
our daily bread”**

**We honor God as**  
**provider and sustainer**  
**of our lives**

**We remind ourselves  
that we depend  
on God for life**

# Proverbs 30:7-9

(The sayings of Agur)

“Two things I ask of you, Lord; do not refuse me before I die ... give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread.

Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, ‘Who is the Lord?’

Or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonor the name of my God.”

## **1 Timothy 6:8**

**“...we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.**

## **1 Corinthians 10:31**

**“So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.”**

**Honor God as provider**

## **Genesis 1:29**

**“Then God said, “Look! I have given you every seed-bearing plant throughout the earth and all the fruit trees for your food.”**

## **Genesis 9:2-3**

**“all the beasts of the earth, and all the birds in the sky, and all the fish in the sea...Everything that lives and moves about will be food for you. Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything.”**

## Acts 14:15-17

“In the past, the living God, who made the heavens and the earth and the sea and everything in them let all nations go their own way.

Yet he has not left himself without testimony: He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons; he provides you with plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy.”

## **James 1:17**

**“Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.”**

## **I Timothy 4:3-5**

**“They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth. For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.”**

**How does God provide?**

# **Sometimes miraculously**

- Elijah fed by ravens**
- His people fed with mana**
- Thousands fed with five loaves and two fish**

**God provides through  
natural process**

## **Matthew 6:26**

**“Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?”**

**God provides  
through hard work**

## **Genesis 3:19**

**“By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”**

## **II Thessalonians 3:10**

**“For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: ‘The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat.’”**

## **I timothy 5:8**

**“Anyone who does not provide for their relatives, and especially for their own household, has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.”**

**God provides as we  
honor Him with our  
material blessings**

## Proverbs 3:9-10

**“Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first-fruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to over-flowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.”**

**God provides through  
compassionate and  
generous people  
of living faith**

## **James 2:15-17**

**“Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, ‘Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,’ but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.”**

## **I John 3:17-18**

**“ If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.”**

**Something greater  
than physical food**

## **John 4:32-34**

**“Jesus said to them, ‘I have food to eat that you know nothing about. ... My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work.’”**

## **John 6:27**

**“Do not labor for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you.”**

## **II Corinthians 11:27**

**“I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food...”**

**Are we acknowledging God as  
our provider and sustainer?**

## Deuteronomy 8:2-3

“Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands. He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your ancestors had known, ...to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.”

# **A model prayer**

## **I Chronicles 29:11-15**

**Yours, Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours.**

**Yours, Lord, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all.**

**Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all.**

**But who am I, and who are my people, that we**