

The Lord's Prayer

SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Week 3 March 20, 2022
"Our Daily Bread"



OPENING PRAYER

Gracious God, you have given us life and placed us in a world full of food. In a time of struggle, we remember how you sent bread from heaven to feed your people in the wilderness. And we remember that your Son was sent to be the "Bread of Life" for all who believe. By your Spirit, teach us in this time of study how you are feeding those who hunger today. Show us how to rely on You, and use us as instruments to care for those who hunger and thirst, both physically and spiritually. In Jesus Name we pray, Amen.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

John 6:30-35 (NIV)

³⁰So they asked him, "What sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do?"³¹Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"

³²Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

³⁴"Sir," they said, "always give us this bread."

³⁵Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

James 2:14-17 (NIV)

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? ¹⁵Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. ¹⁶If 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? ¹⁷In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Week 3 *March 20, 2022*
“Our Daily Bread”

INTRODUCTION

“Give us this day, our daily bread,” is often where we want to jump first in prayer—our personal needs can feel so pressing and urgent. Jesus teaches us to pray first with the perspective of God’s Heavenly Kingdom, and then pray with confidence for what we need to sustain us each day. Jesus described himself as “the Bread of Life.” What does it mean for us as Christians, that Jesus is our source of life? As we pray the Lord’s Prayer and seek to live it, we discover ways to partner with God to ensure others have their physical and spiritual needs met as well.

QUESTIONS

1. After introductions, take a moment for each person to write down everything they remember eating yesterday in one column. In the next column, write down a guess of the cost of each item. Then circle those foods, you would consider “essential.” Does anything about the chart surprise you? How does this exercise make you feel? How do you think recent inflation has impacted these numbers for you and for others?
2. Read John 6:30-35. The people were asking Jesus for a “miraculous sign.” Who is asking and why?
3. What does Jesus mean when he calls himself “the bread of life”?
4. We can be satisfied with food, and yet “spiritually starved.” Have you ever felt this way? What or who has fed or feeds that hunger?
5. Read James 2:14-17. When is faith dead, according to James?
6. In the scenario James describes, were you ever the person in need, greeted with empty words? Were you ever the one offering empty words? Describe the situation.
7. Discuss ways Asbury Church is providing “daily bread” for those in need. Do you participate in one of these ministries? How can you learn more about these ministries?

FINAL APPLICATION

Pray for your own needs, knowing your Heavenly Father hears you, and then pray for guidance to share God’s “daily bread” with others. As you consider how to partner with God to bring people their “daily bread,” both physical and spiritual, you may be led to help with an Asbury mission, donate to or help a local food bank, provide funds for rescue efforts in Ukraine, or you may feel ready to have a new family over to your home for dinner. As you live the Lord’s Prayer this week, figure out how you can bring a little heaven on earth for someone this week.