

TEACH US TO PRAY: Our Daily Bread

As preached on Sunday, September 20th

Read: Luke 11:1-3

1. This “give us each day our daily bread” petition marks a transition in the Lord’s Prayer from theological concerns to very human concerns. The prayer moves from your name, your kingdom, and your will (in Matthew) to our bread, our sins, and our temptation. What do you think is the significance of this transition and of the order of these two sections of the prayer?
2. We need to be careful not to “spiritualize” the bread mentioned in the prayer too quickly. What do you think Jesus means when he says we should ask each day for our daily bread? What is this “bread”?
3. Is it easy for you to bring your needs to God in prayer? Why? Why not? Are there unacceptable or inappropriate needs/wants to bring to God in prayer, or is everything acceptable?
4. Take a moment to read Exodus 16:1-31. What connection do you see between the Israelite’s experience with manna and our prayer for daily bread?
5. What do you suppose is the significance of asking EACH day for our DAILY bread? Is there a connection between this daily practice and the quality of our relationship with God?
6. What connection do you see between Jesus’ command to pray each day for our daily bread and the hunger crisis in our world? Was this prayer also intended to be offered on behalf of those who hunger in this world?
7. How can you make praying this portion of the Lord’s Prayer a more consistent practice in your life? How do you think that will impact your relationship with God?
8. Take a moment right now to thank God for the daily bread he has given you.