

God Provides Our Daily Bread

Bible Lesson: Exodus 16:1-15, 31

NEW WORDS

supply	daily bread
Exodus	Moses
Israelites	Egypt
manna	wafers
quail	desert
wilderness	

traveling for a while, they ran short of food. Instead of praying about the problem, they started complaining. But God loved them and listened anyway, and He did an amazing thing. God sent bread to rain down from heaven! The bread from heaven was called *manna* and tasted like *wafers* with honey.

In The Lord's Prayer, we ask God to give us this day our *daily bread*. When we pray for "daily bread," we are not only praying for bread to eat but for everything we need to live each day such as food, clothing, and shelter. God loves His children very much and promises to take good care of us by providing everything we need.

One example of God caring for His children is found in the book of *Exodus*. God chose a man named *Moses* to lead God's people, the *Israelites*, out of the land of *Egypt* where they had been slaves for many years. This was a very big job since there were about two million people to lead. Moses must have wondered how there would ever be enough food for all those people. But God took wonderful care of them.

After the Israelites had been



Every morning when the Israelites woke up, they found the ground covered with manna. They took their baskets and collected enough to last the whole day. God also sent many *quail* to them every evening, so they could have meat to eat. And when they got thirsty, God provided water for them. God gave them their daily bread.



The Israelites wandered for forty years through the hot *desert*. There were no cars or buses then, so they had to do a lot of walking. All that walking should have been very hard on their shoes. But God was good to them! Deuteronomy 29:6 says that God kept their clothes and shoes from wearing out through all those years. God provided for their daily needs.

God cares for us and provides for us too. God gives us our daily bread. In Matthew 6:25, Jesus tells us not to be worried about what we are going to eat or drink or wear. Look at the birds. They don't worry about what they are going to eat. God gives them what they need. And look at the flowers. They don't worry about what they are going to wear. But look how beautiful they are! God takes care of them too. So if God takes such good care of the birds and flowers, we can be sure He will take even better care of us!

God provided for the daily needs of Moses and the Israelites in the *wilderness*. And God cares for the birds and the flowers. We can be sure He will be faithful to care for us.



The Fourth Petition

Give us this day our daily bread.

A people freed from slavery, led by a cloud by day,
walked out in the desert, protected on their way.
The people started to grumble, "Are we here to die?
Can God really guide us and see us with His eye?"
The Lord said, "I am the Lord your God, I will *supply* your needs,
and as you eat and live, I will watch your deeds."
Manna in the wilderness, quail from the skies,
Water from the rock, clothing that never dies.
Graciously *God* showed them that He really cared,
giving from His *riches*, lovingly He shared.
As they walked about, many were their tears,
Yet always God provided through *all* the forty years.

Do we see this witness of what God can do?
See that God does love us, He cares for me and you.
All the things on earth we need, He truly will provide.
With grateful hearts we praise Him, as we on earth abide.
His provision does not stop with food and clothes and water.
His loving heart provided salvation in no other.
The *needs* that are eternal, surely we should know
These are more important, eternity will show.
Have you gathered eternal "manna" *according* to your needs?
Salvation is provided, by God's most loving deeds.
Then, O what a *glory*, that eternal day you'll see,
When with *Christ Jesus*, you will always be.

The story-poem above has hidden words that will fill in the blanks for your memory verse. Read the poem, and then look at the blanks below. Fill in the blanks with the correct words to complete the verse. (Clue: look for the words that are written in *italics*.) After you have filled in the blanks, hide the verse away in your heart.

And my _____ shall _____ your
_____ to His _____
in _____ in _____.

Philippians 4:19

Memory Verse

And my God shall *supply* all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:19

Enrichment Memory Verse: *Matthew 6:25*

In the space below, write a poem showing thankfulness to God for supplying all your needs.



**A
P
P
L
Y**

What does it mean when we pray, "Give us this day our daily bread"? The box below explains the meaning of the Fourth Petition of The Lord's Prayer. It is taken from *Luther's Small Catechism*.

**God indeed gives daily bread to all men,
even to the wicked, without our prayer;
but we pray in this petition that He would lead us to
acknowledge our daily bread as His gift,
and to receive it with thanksgiving.**

Read each question below. Then circle the KEY WORDS in the box above that help to explain the answer. Use a different colored pencil for each answer.

1. WHO provides for daily needs? (purple)
2. WHAT does God do for all men? (green)
3. WHY should we pray, "Give us this day our daily bread"? (blue)
4. HOW should we receive our daily bread? (red)