

THE LORD'S PRAYER: CARE FOR THE COMMUNITY

Life Group Questions | Sunday, January 17, 2021

Read Matthew 6:9-13. This week we are focusing on verses 11-12. What resonates with and/or challenges you?

Over the centuries, the church has recognized three basic meanings of “daily bread.”

1. Spiritual bread that refers to Jesus.
2. Nourishment of the Word of God.
3. Physical, daily needs.

Where do you most easily recognize your dependance on God for these daily needs? Where is it more challenging to see that dependance?

The Lord's prayer reminds us that we are not just individuals, but part of a new family: give **us** our daily bread. The Lord's prayer compels us to care for others.

Read Exodus 16:17-18. What is extra for us may be a need for someone else. Where is there abundance in your life? What comes up for you when you think of sharing resources with the community? How have you seen God provide for you through the sharing of others?

Read Matthew 8:21-35. A big part of caring for others is the practice of forgiveness. What does this parable stir in you? What questions, thoughts, or emotions come up?

The forgiveness of God is transformational and frees us to practice forgiveness with others. Forgiveness doesn't mean we remain in hurtful relationships or have poor boundaries. Forgiveness is the practice of releasing our hurts to God and entrusting outcomes to God. What debt or hurt are you holding onto? What would it look like to begin the work of releasing that to God?

Pray together. Begin with the Lord's Prayer in Matthew 6:9-13.