

## MON 6-5

"Jesus replied, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'" [John 6:35, CEB] Bread was Jesus' metaphor of choice to describe how essential he is in our lives. Our deepest needs are met when we walk closely with him.

**PRAY:** Lord Jesus, I need you every minute of every hour. Forgive me when I behave like I have forgotten this truth. Help me to put you in the center of my life. Amen.

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## TUES 6-6

"The wind blows wherever it wants. Just as you can hear the wind but can't tell where it comes from or where it is going, so you can't explain how people are born of the Spirit." [John 3:8, NLT] Jesus talked about God's salvation as somewhat of a mystery. Think of the ways God has worked in your life that you didn't expect or couldn't explain. Give thanks!

**PRAY:** Wonderful God, I love that your ways are too high for my mind to fully understand. It gives me such hope to know that your power and love are so big that no mind can comprehend. Amen.

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## WED 6-7

"For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God." [Romans 8:14, NLT] A great place to start to hear God's direction is to spend time listening! Set aside five minutes today to just be still and focus your attention on God. Pray for your heart to be open and aware.

**PRAY:** Holy Spirit, I know you are always with me. I am the one who isn't always aware of how you are working in my life. Open my ears to hear you and renew my mind as I choose to follow. Amen.

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## THURS 6-8

"Consider the ravens: they neither plant nor harvest, they have no silo or barn, yet God feeds them. You are worth so much more than birds!" [Luke 12:24, CEB] We are encouraged to rely daily on God rather than worrying about the things that we will need in the future. Take a moment to search your heart for any anxious thoughts and share them with God while you pray.

**PRAY:** Lord of creation, sometimes I forget to bring you the things that trouble me and clutter my mind. Thank you for being my source of peace. Help me to remember to lean on you daily. Amen.

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## FRI 6-9

"Let's take a good look at the way we're living and reorder our lives under God." [Lamentations 3:40, MSG] God desires for us to seek the kingdom of God first. How does that influence the way you plan your daily activities? Is there room in your day for doing something that brings hope to others?

**PRAY:** Gracious God, help me to make the necessary changes today so that I am somehow a part of bringing your love to the world. I don't want to be consumed with unimportant things. Amen.

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## SAT 6-10

"John replied, 'If you have two shirts, give one to the poor. If you have food, share it with those who are hungry.'" [Luke 3:11, NLT] John the Baptist preached in preparation for the beginning of Christ's ministry on earth. He encouraged the people to be ready, to change the way they were living, and to have concern for the welfare of others. With Christ in our lives, it isn't just about us!

**PRAY:** Precious Jesus, show me ways I can give more time and resources to those who need to know they are loved. Help me grow in my willingness to share what you have given me. Amen.

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## Intro

The Lord's Prayer has some serious weight to it, and when we really dig in and engage, we will become closer to God as a result. This week, we will dive into what it means to depend on God for "our daily bread."

## Reflect

- The Jewish people ate unleavened bread at Passover to remind them of God's provision during their liberation from Egypt. How easy is it for you to trust that God's promises point to a future you can count on? Do you tend to worry about what is to come?
- Read Exodus 16:15-21. The "daily" part of this line in the Lord's Prayer is a nod back to when God's people were traveling through the desert to the promised land. Rather than trusting that God would provide what they needed for each day, they began to try to save and store the manna despite God's instructions. In what ways do we tend to try to "stock up" on spirituality rather than seeking daily togetherness with God?
- Manna wasn't something the Israelites were expecting. How has God provided for you in unexpected ways?
- Why do you think Jesus used the term "our" rather than the term "my" when teaching us to pray for provision? How might his demonstration of collective concern relate to the earlier portion of the prayer that God's will would be done "on earth as it is in heaven"?
- Jesus used bread as a way to teach us important truths. After the miraculous feeding of the 5,000 with a small amount of bread and fish, he taught that those who hunger and thirst for righteousness would be happy and filled. What tangible comforts do you tend to seek that don't truly satisfy? What do you think it means to hunger and thirst for righteousness?
- In what was about to be his darkest time, Jesus began the observance of "The Lord's Supper." He told his disciples that he would eat this bread with them again when they are together in God's kingdom. The bread became a reminder of Jesus' certainty that despite the evil and hatred around him, God's kingdom would become a reality. When darkness seems to be closing in, how might this observance make a difference in your perspective?

## Pray

Gracious God, thank you for the ways you provide for me, whether through the caring of one of your children or via the comfort of your ever-present spirit with me. Help me to seek righteousness, living in a way that brings heaven to earth. Amen.

**What did I learn?**

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**How might it apply in my life?**

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**What is a next step I can take?**

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