

Scripture Reference: Matthew 6:11

Date: August 26, 2012

Title: "Day to Day"

Focus: Learning that God is the supplier of humanity's needs.

Intro:

1. Certain words, phrases, and sentences are rich with history. When they are invoked, readers and hearers are carried back to that event and its weight influences the conversation at hand.
2. In a seven-word sentence referencing a historical event from Israel's past that conjured up a flood of memories. In uttering these words, Jesus wasn't just teaching them to look to God for one's daily sustenance. He is telling them God is to be sought as the daily as the source of their existence.

Body:

"Give us this day our daily bread"

- This statement is grounded in Israel's experience with YHWH in the wilderness. – Ex. 16:12-24

- These are the facts:

Israel left Egypt headed towards Canaan with what they could carry. Eventually their supplies were exhausted and the land in which they traveled was incapable of supporting them.

Israel's depended upon YHWH for survival. To meet their need every morning He supplied them with Manna.

Daily, each family was to collect a certain amount, (an omer, approx. a gallon, for each person in the family). God would use that to meet the need of their household.

If they collected too much in the attempt to supply for the next day, it spoiled.

No matter the size of the family, everyone was satisfied.

- This experience was intended to teach Israel about YHWH. In it they would come to understand His care and learn to trust Him.

Ex. 16:12 *"I have heard the grumblings of the sons of Israel; speak to them, saying, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread; **and you shall know that I am the LORD your God.**'"*

There was more to Jesus' Words Than A History Lesson

Jesus wants you to understand:

This world is incapable of supplying all your needs.

- Beyond the physical you have needs only God can provide.

Luke 6:32-35 Jesus *"said, 'It is written, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD.'*"

Whatever the means, God is the ultimate provider.

- In the wilderness, YHWH provided Manna, a supernatural substance, in the morning and Quail, a natural substance in the evening.

- However the provision comes it is God who is the provider.

No matter the size of the family, God's provision was adequate to satisfy their hunger.

- YHWH is more than adequate to satisfy you. We fail to experience this when we want more than Him.

James 4:1 "*What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members?*"

Those who tried to provide for themselves found spoil.

- God desires you to benefit from His provision. However, taking what He has given and seeking to provide for yourself with it results in a blessing becoming a curse.

Closing:

1. We are each frail and dependent creatures. As His creation, we are meant to rely upon Him.
2. Jesus wants people to recognize and live in that blessed dependence. In the process, experiencing a full, abundant, and meaningful life.
3. Do you embrace this daily need for God? Does your life declare that your very person relies upon Him?