

Community Group Growth Questions

1. Share with the group any insight, truth, or observation from Sunday's message that helped you, troubled you, or ministered to you.
2. Describe what we are asking for when we petition God for our daily bread.
3. Discuss the following quote in relation to praying for our daily bread. "Whether we like it or not, asking is the rule of the kingdom. If you may have everything by asking in His name, and nothing without asking, I beg you to see how absolutely vital prayer is." (C. H. Spurgeon) How vital is prayer for YOUR daily bread?
4. What do the words "this day" and "daily" seem to indicate to us? What does this say about our faith and the faithfulness of God?
5. Read John 6:32-35, Exodus 16:14-31, Deuteronomy 8:2-4. How might these passages of scripture teach us about prayer for our physical needs as well as our spiritual needs?

Living on Mission

1. Make a list of your own "daily bread" needs. What kinds of things will you specifically ask of God?
2. Consider WHO God is and what He has promised. How does God's character and promises match the needs on your list? Rest in God's faithfulness to provide all of your needs.
3. How dependent upon God are you for your daily physical and spiritual needs? Examine your daily requests. Are they more "wants" than "needs"? Do you find that you really have no need to trust God because you believe you can meet your needs yourself? How might James 1:17 and Philippians 4:6,19 speak to this heart issue?
4. Are you spiritually hungry for Jesus, the bread of life? What does "spiritual hunger and thirst" look like? How can this petition ("give us this day our daily bread") be the answer to your spiritual hunger?
5. The Israelites, while they were in the wilderness, went out daily to gather manna for the day. How does this correlate with your daily devotion to God and His word? (Or does it?) What would each day look like if you saw the word of God as equally as vital as your food and water?

This Week's Reading:

Monday: Proverbs 3:8-9, Matthew 4:4 and 6:11

Tuesday: 2 Corinthians 1:20; Romans 8:32

Wednesday: 1 Timothy 6:6-8 and 4:4-5

Thursday: John 6:32-35; Deuteronomy 8:2-4

Friday: Exodus 16:14-31

Saturday: Philippians 4:6, 19

Additional Resources:

A Hunger for God: Desiring God through Fasting & Prayer by John Piper

When You Pray: Making the Lord's Prayer Your Own by Philip Graham Ryken

The Prayer of the Lord by R. C. Sproul

The Sermon on the Mount by James Montgomery Boice

Welcome to the Church at Martinsburg!

Whether this is your first time or your next time; whether you are a member or a first-time guest – we want to connect with you! Use the white card with this Loop to relay information to your church staff. Please complete the front so we can update our records and use the back to request information or share your prayer requests. As your pastors, we are honored to pray for and serve you.

Members' Gathering - Sunday July 22 - 5:00pm to 6:30pm at the Comfort Inn - Aikens Center located at 1872 Edwin Miller Blvd in Martinsburg. Hors d'oeuvres will be served. Childcare to age five will be provided.

How will you serve at C@M? Go to volunteering.martinsburgchurch.org.

Interested in Membership? Our next Gospel Class will be offered on Saturday, July 21. Email tammy@martinsburgchurch.org to register.

Baptism Celebration is scheduled for Sunday, July 22. Sign up at baptism.martinsburgchurch.org or call the church office at 304.596.9330 to register.

Discipleship Opportunity: Sign Up in the Lobby Today!

Men's Bible Study begins July 21 – meets every other Saturday – Contact Ray Borden at rtjml@msn.com or Dan Edman at dan@martinsburgchurch.org. Workbook needed.

Please begin praying for the Blackshear Place Baptist Church mission team coming to work with C@M from 08/04/12 through 08/10/12. Contact Dan Edman at dan@martinsburgchurch.org on how you can get involved and serve with them.

Pastor On Call: If you or your family have an emergency and need to get hold of a pastor from Friday morning through Monday morning please call 304.616.9007 to reach The Church at Martinsburg's Pastor on call.

Missionary Toolbox:

"We must not leave this request for our daily bread without pointing out that we need spiritual nourishment also... We need to feed spiritually on God.

Have you ever noticed that there is only one other place in the entire Bible where a request to 'give us bread' is spoken? It is in the midst of Christ's sermon on the spiritual bread recorded in John 6. Jesus had said to his hearers, 'I tell you the truth, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven.' They had answered, 'From now on give us this bread.' Jesus said, 'I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me will never go hungry, and he who believes in Me will never be thirsty' (John 6:32-35). The Jews were thinking of physical bread, no doubt, just as the woman of Samaria had been thinking physical water. But Jesus turned them away from these physical things to Himself as the One who could satisfy the far greater hunger of the soul.

What does it mean to feed spiritually on the Lord Jesus Christ? It means quite simply that He is the source of all spiritual life and that we will grow spiritually only as we draw close to Him and learn about Him. Moreover, unless we do this we inevitably will be starved spiritually and feel spiritually hungry.

...Far too many believers find themselves like those described in one of our hymns – 'rich in things, but poor in soul.' Have you known such leanness, such hunger? Perhaps you have filled yourself with all the means of satisfying your physical hunger, and yet you have not looked to God for spiritual feeding. You pray, 'Give me my physical bread,' but you have never prayed, 'Give me that spiritual bread that comes down from heaven.' All our hungers are useful in themselves, of course. They are right within their bounds. They have been put there by God, who made us. We have a hunger for achievement, for love, for happiness. All these things are good in themselves when they are used as God intends them to be used. But it is tragic that many Christians will satisfy these hungers, or attempt to satisfy them, at the expense of spending much necessary and truly satisfying time with God."

James Montgomery Boice, "The Sermon on the Mount"