



**WEEK
40
PRAYER**

Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."

— MATTHEW 6:9-13 (ESV)

THE PRAYER

Lord Jesus, You taught us to pray, "Give us this day our daily bread." We are part of a prayer coalition representing 180 different nations. Millions are in need of daily sustenance. Some are unemployed. Many people are hungry and starving. We thank you today that Heaven's pantry is not empty! For those outside Your Kingdom, things can even be worse. As for those who are prospering, help them care for those who are hungry and destitute as if they, too, were impoverished.

Lord, today we cry out: Give us an outpouring of Heaven's bread. If You provided supernaturally for the Israelites in the wilderness, You can provide for Your people today. We cry out for those who are unemployed. Provide them jobs, we pray. Meet the needs of those who are starving; please open the wells of generosity in people's hearts around the world. You have shown us Your abundant mercy in the midst of pain and plague. Above all, Jesus, the bread of Heaven, we cry out to You in faith; as we meet You through Your Word and prayer, fill us with Your life and Your presence.

Heavenly Father, in this hour of incredible pressure and need, it is easy to grow angry with those groups and individuals who are failing or threatening us. Whether they are government officials or workers, employers, landlords, friends, or family members, today we choose to forgive, even as You have forgiven us. Forgive us and cleanse us afresh for our own prejudice and bitterness, too, we pray. Where we have stereotyped whole groups of people based on their ethnicity, gender, or socioeconomic background, deliver us from this blinding bias, so we might see people through Your eyes.

Lord, we ask You to cleanse us from bias, profiling, prejudice, unforgiveness, and bitterness, for judgment must start first in Your own house. As you cleanse and forgive us, we come boldly before Your throne, crying out: Let Your love for us be magnified, so it radiates into our divided and broken nations. Heal the strife between us, which has existed for centuries, and the volcanic forces of pain, hopelessness, and anger which are fracturing the world once again. Send us a powerful revival to wash away offenses and sweep the oppressed masses of our world into the arms of Your redeeming love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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