

Closing the Gap:

Where am I? Where do I want to be?

Matt. 6:9-13 "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."



This prayer for daily bread is a constant reminder of our need and of his provision.



Manna: "What is it?"



Daily bread = He was teaching them active trust



Their collective memory was so very short...as is ours.



1. We must remember our dependency on God

2. We must remember gratitude for God's provision

"Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business and to work with your hands, just as we told you, so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody"

1 Thess. 4:11-12



Working for a "living" is a gift not a tragedy.





"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him"

Col. 3:17



"What do you have that you did not receive?"

1 Cor. 4:7

"Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.' "Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry." "But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?' "This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God."

Luke 12:15-21



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Let the needs of others produce a sense of stewardship in you

"From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked"

Luke 12:48



Trust and Gratitude: the antidotes for a demanding heart



Demanding is the opposite of trust and gratitude.

Asking is good, demanding is not.



"Give us today our daily bread"