

Jubilee: The Lord's Prayer

Theme: "Give us today our daily bread." (Matt 6:11)

Bible Verse: "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." (Matt 6:33)

When our church began in 1969, there were only 13 families, so it was a challenge to support a pastor. A brother in charge gave the pastor a guarantee, "As long as we have something to eat, so to will your family eat." This required great faith from both sides, not only God's faithfulness, but also the willing dedication of brothers and sisters, and the pastor's willingness to bear hardship.

Jesus teaches in the Lord's Prayer that we must ask the Father to give us our daily bread everyday, based on the story of manna falling from heaven. Jesus said that when it comes to our physical needs, our Heavenly Father already knows what they are. Therefore, by seeking first his kingdom and his righteousness, the food and clothing will be given to us as well. The word "first" is very important. Jesus did not forbid us from asking for food and clothing, he taught us we can ask, but to seek food and clothing as secondary. Food and clothing are not the result of work; they are given by the Father who cares for His children. You must not be interrupted nor greedy as you pray daily. This is an encouragement to those looking for work, to not be worried about their livelihood. It also speaks to those in ministry. Because of the Lord's promises, they can give up high-paying jobs, live by faith, look towards God's provision, and spread the gospel in far-reaching difficult places. Our church must also look towards God's provision in the same way.

REFLECTION

- Do we seek first God's kingdom & righteousness before our daily bread?
- Have we observed the birds in the sky, the flowers on the ground, and reflected upon God's provision?

RENEW

- Thank God for his daily provisions. Seek first his kingdom and righteousness.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray that our church relies on God's provision and counts the blessings that God has bestowed upon our church over the past 50 years.
- Ask God to provide for our missionaries and those who have lost their jobs.
- Pray for Elder Chaw-Bing Chang and Elder Loren Shih.
- For God's Kingdom - Pray for the world's people who are short of food and clothing, may God give them grace and let them hear the gospel.