

Children's Corner

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Give us this day

Our daily bread

In the first three petitions we have been asking our Father in heaven for spiritual blessings. In the fourth petition we are taught to ask Him for earthly blessings.

We see how much more important spiritual blessings are than the earthly ones. The petitions for them come first. They are three in number; there is only one for temporal blessings.

In the First Article we confess that God has created us and all creatures. God has done so much more for us. He is not like an earthly builder. The earthly builder leaves the house once he has finished it. But God continues to preserve His building (all of creation), so that it continues to function.



Give:

All that we have in earthly things is a gift from God. He gives without our asking, and He does this even to all the wicked. The difference however is this: the Christian believes in Christ as His Saviour from sin. He knows that he has been bought with a price. The Christian therefore glorifies God when he acknowledges that his daily bread comes from God as a gift.

In contrast unbelievers display their rebellion against God by their ingratitude. Do we remember to say grace at meals?

Us our:

We are taught to ask for our daily bread, our own bread. This shows how important it is for us to earn our daily bread. It should not be stolen or dishonestly gained bread. Like Peter we may have to toil all night and take nothing. But in His own good time our Lord will bless our labour. He promises to abundantly bless our labour.

Notice we do not pray, "Give *me* this

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day *my* daily bread". In this petition as in the others Jesus teaches us to pray in the plural number. "Give *us* this day *our* daily bread." There are others beside us who require daily bread.

God sometimes gives to others their daily bread through us. He gives us more than we require so we can pass some of it on to others. Isaiah 58:7: "**Deal thy bread to the hungry.**"

By being kind, charitable and helpful we show our gratitude to God for His rich blessings.

This day... daily:

We pray, "Give us 'this day' our daily bread." Tomorrow's bread should not trouble us today. The Lord teaches us not to worry for the future.

We should not worry and fret about the future. God will provide each day. Take no anxious thoughts for the morrow.

God fed the children of Israel with manna from heaven. He fed Elijah in a miraculous way both at the brook and in the home of the widow. He can miraculously provide for us, if we need it and if it is His will. Ordinarily it is His will that we earn our daily bread by our own effort.

We must work diligently and faithfully. We must exercise wisdom and care. But we must commit our success to our Heavenly Father. He feeds the birds of the air and clothes the lilies of the field. He will not neglect His children.

Bread:

From the First Article we learn that God also preserves our body. He does this by supplying food, clothing, and all our other bodily requirements.

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For the support of the body we

require food, drink, clothing shoes, house, home.

In order that that we may have these, we must have also fields, cattle, money, goods of all sorts.

To faithfully earn our daily bread we need help. God thus will provide a pious (God-fearing) spouse, children, good reliable workers.

To live at peace we need pious (God-fearing) and faithful rulers. We are also to pray for good government. May they make wise laws so that our country can prosper.

We must have good weather, rain and sunshine in due season. We need peace, we must be free from the ravages of war. Health is necessary, so that we can attend to our work.

Discipline is necessary, each person doing his duty. Christ wants us to let our faith shine before men. To confess Christ before the world we need honour, a good reputation in the community. This must, however, not be motivated by pride but by love for the Lord and His Word. In doing this they will see our good works, and this will lead them to our Heavenly Father.

Good friends and faithful neighbours are very important. We are not here on earth alone, but need their help and advice.



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All these things are summed up in one expression, "daily bread". He gives them purely out of Fatherly divine goodness and mercy.

Everything we need: food, shelter, clothing, happy home, peace, good weather. God promises us our daily bread, everything that we need for the support and wants of the body. Even for things which we do not need, but desire, God wants us to pray. But in such matters we are to submit to His will.

1 Timothy 6:8. **"And having food and raiment, let us be therewith content."**

Nevertheless, God wants His children to ask Him for these things. God's children are to know and acknowledge that "all good gifts around us are sent from heaven above." God's children therefore are to receive their daily bread with thanksgiving. We should

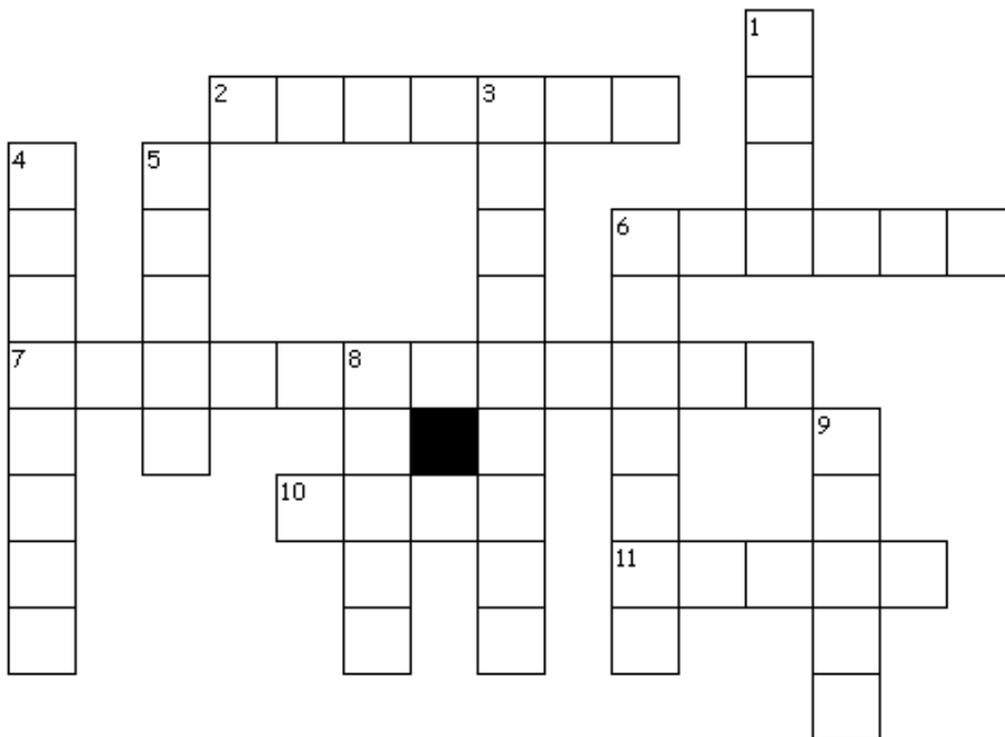
therefore always remember "all good gifts around us are sent from heaven above," and "thank the Lord for all His love."

Count your many blessings. Worship God as the Giver of every good gift. Trust and rely that your Heavenly Father has never failed you in the past. Know with as much certainty He will never forsake you in the future. Always remember the promise He gave (Hebrew 13:5): "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee."

Prayer:

Lead us, Heavenly Father, lead us
O'er the worlds tempestuous sea.
Guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
For we have no help but Thee,
Yet possessing every blessing
If our God our Father be.

(TJW)



Gifts of God

Across

- 2. Rain-Sunshine-Hot-Cold
- 6. Farmers grow crops here
- 7. Gratefulness to the Lord
- 10. 1 John 4:8
- 11. Thirst quenching

Down

- 1. Mary and Martha invited Jesus there
- 3. Joy
- 4. Covering for our body
- 5. Jesus brake this Matt 26:26
- 6. Companions
- 8. Worn on feet
- 9. Currency

PSALM 118

Let us praise God for his mercy. (v1-9 metrical)

1 O praise the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy lasteth ever.

2 Let those of Israel now say,
His mercy faileth never.

3 Now let the house of Aaron say,
His mercy lasteth ever.

4 Let those that fear the Lord now say,
His mercy faileth never.

5 I in distress call'd on the Lord;
the Lord did answer me:
He in a large place did me set,
from trouble made me free.

6 The mighty Lord is on my side,
I will not be afraid;
For any thing that man can do
I shall not be dismay'd.

7 The Lord doth take my part with them
that help to succour me:
Therefore on those that do me hate
I my desire shall see.

8 Better it is to trust in God
than trust in man's defence;

9 Better to trust in God than make
princes our confidence.

COLOURING



'And whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof.'

Gen 2:19

GOLDEN TEXT: Psalm 139:14

I will praise Thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Marvellous are Thy works, and that my soul knoweth right well.

Dear Children.— The Golden Text expresses the feeling of the psalmist when he thought about God’s wonderful Creation, especially also when he thought of the creation of man. God has revealed Himself as the Almighty Creator; but also He is the God of Love; His Creation is a work of love. It was His love that caused Him to make man in His own image. It was His love that caused Him to make the earth a fit place for man to live in. Let us hear more about this.

MAN AND PARADISE

GENESIS 2

Man.— And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

Paradise.— And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden. He caused to grow out of the ground every tree that is beautiful and pleasing to the sight and also all trees that bore fruit suitable to be food for man; in the midst of the garden He caused to grow the tree of life, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

And the Lord God took the man (as yet He had not created a woman) and put him into this wonderfully beautiful garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, “Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day that thou eatest thereof, thou shalt surely die.”

The Woman. — And the Lord God said, “It is not good that the man should be

alone; I will make him an help meet (suitable) for him.” For when the Lord God had formed every beast of the field and every fowl of the air, He brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them. And Adam gave names to all cattle and to the birds of the air and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.

And the Lord caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept; and God took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh. And the rib He made a woman, and brought her unto the man. And Adam said, “This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh.” Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife.

And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed. (They were perfect, holy, and innocent and so had no cause to feel any shame, for shame is the result of sin.)

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Dear Children. — We do not understand all that is meant by the words of these first stories of the bible; nor is that necessary or even possible; for man, much as he may try, will never, in this life, understand the working of God's almighty power, nor the wonders of His mercy and love.

What we do understand from these stories, however, is that God made man **perfect**, and that He prepared for him, in the beautiful world a place so much more beautiful than all the rest of the world that it has come to be known as paradise. God surrounded him with all that he needed for perfect comfort and happiness. So learn from this story that God is our Father who has created us as objects upon whom He wants to pour out all the treasures of His love.



Note that God gave to man a command. He was not to eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. This was to be an opportunity for man to show his thanks to his Maker by giving to Him the obedience He had the right to ask of him.

*All heaven on high rejoices
To do its Maker's will;
The stars with solemn voices
Resound Thy praises still:
So let my whole behaviour,
Thoughts, words, and actions be,
O Lord, my Strength, my Saviour,
One ceaseless song to Thee. (Hymn 186:6)*

(Taken from "Our Sunday School Paper" Feb 12, 1939. Used by permission.)

QUESTIONS

1. Of what did God form man?
2. How did man become a living soul?
3. What did God plant?
4. Where did He plant it?
5. What did God cause to grow out of the ground?
6. What kinds of trees were there?
7. Which two trees did God plant in the middle of the garden?
8. Whom did God then place in the garden?
9. What was the man to do?
10. Of how many trees was the man allowed to eat?
11. Of which tree was he forbidden to eat?
12. What would happen if he did not obey?
13. How many human beings were there only as yet?
14. What did God say about this?
15. What did He intend to do?
16. What had God brought to Adam?
17. Why?
18. What did Adam then give to all the creatures?
19. What, however, was not found for Adam?
20. What did God cause to fall upon Adam?
21. So what did he do?

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22. What then did God take from him?
23. What did he do with the flesh?
24. What did he make of the rib?
25. To whom did He bring her?
26. What did Adam say?
27. Whom, therefore, shall a man leave?
28. To whom shall he cleave?
29. How were the man and his wife?
30. How did they not feel?
31. Why?
32. What does God, our Father, want to pour out upon us, His creatures?
33. What are we in turn to do?



PUZZLES



A Genealogy

Both Matthew and Luke contain genealogies of the human family line of Jesus. Your challenge is to sort them out in this quiz.

1. Fill in the blank: "The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of _____."
2. To what place does Matthew trace Jesus' genealogy? _____
3. To what man does Luke trace Jesus' genealogy? _____
4. How many generations are in the three groupings Matthew describes?

A) Seven	C) Fourteen
B) Ten	D) Twenty
5. True or False: Deborah, the Old Testament judge, is listed in Jesus' genealogy? _____
6. Which of the twelve sons of Jacob was part of Jesus' lineage?

A) Dan	C) Naphtali
B) Judah	D) Reuben
7. What murdered soldier, husband of Bathsheba, is mentioned in Matthew's genealogy?
8. What prominent Old Testament woman is named in Matthew's genealogy?

A) Delilah	C) Hannah
B) Esther	D) Ruth
9. True or False: Noah, or Noe, is mentioned in Luke's genealogy of Jesus? _____
10. What child of Adam and Eve became part of the line of Christ? _____

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