



1. Jesus was a servant leader.
2. Jesus was a forgiving leader.
3. Jesus was a courageous leader.
4. Jesus was a faithful leader.
5. Jesus was a compassionate leader.
6. Jesus was a truthful leader.
7. Jesus was a prayerful leader.

Jesus prepared 12 men for the most difficult mission that any men had undertaken in world history. Their mission was to convince the world that He was God and the Ruler of the Kingdom of God. To fulfill this mission these 12 men had to overcome the ruler of this world, Satan. Their mission was to begin in Israel and then they were to take His message throughout the known world. Jesus had three- and one-half years to prepare them.

Is it any wonder that these men would ask Jesus to teach them to pray?

Here is how Jesus taught them to pray....

Luke 11:1-4

11 Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, that one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples."

2 So He said to them, "When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.

Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

3 Give us day by day our daily bread.

4 And forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one."

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Today we are going to unpack verse 3.

3 Give us day by day our daily bread.

Any successful military leader would tell you that one of the main weaknesses of any soldier is if they are concerned about the cares of this world.

The word cares in the New Testament is the Greek word...

merimna (mer'-im-nah); from NT:3307 (through the idea of distraction); solicitude:

Successful soldiers are not distracted by such trivial concerns.

Jesus knew that His disciples could not be successful on their mission if they were worried about their next meal.

Through this prayer, Jesus taught His disciples to depend on God for their next meal and to release this concern to God.

3 Give us day by day our daily bread.

Jesus gave His disciples this promise.

Matthew 6:25-34

25 "Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?

26 Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

27 Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?

28 "So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin;

29 and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

30 Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

31 "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'

32 For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

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Jesus modeled for His disciples what God would do for them if they would trust Him for their daily bread.

Matthew 15:32-38

32 Now Jesus called His disciples to Himself and said, "I have compassion on the multitude, because they have now continued with Me three days and have nothing to eat. And I do not want to send them away hungry, lest they faint on the way."

33 Then His disciples said to Him, "Where could we get enough bread in the wilderness to fill such a great multitude?"

34 Jesus said to them, "How many loaves do you have?" And they said, "Seven, and a few little fish."

35 So He commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground.

36 And He took the seven loaves and the fish and gave thanks, broke them and gave them to His disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitude.

37 So they all ate and were filled, and they took up seven large baskets full of the fragments that were left.

38 Now those who ate were four thousand men, besides women and children.

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Jesus battled tested them. He sent them out on a mission that would last for many days and He told them not to take any supplies.

Luke 9:1-6

9 Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases.

2 He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.

3 And He said to them, "Take nothing for the journey, neither staffs nor bag nor bread nor money; and do not have two tunics apiece.

4 "Whatever house you enter, stay there, and from there depart.

5 And whoever will not receive you, when you go out of that city, shake off the very dust from your feet as a testimony against them."

6 So they departed and went through the towns, preaching the gospel and healing everywhere.

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At the beginning and the end of His time with them, Jesus showed them how easy it would be for them to catch fish if they trusted Him and gave themselves to His mission for them.

Luke 5:1-7

5 So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret,

2 and saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had gone from them and were washing their nets.

3 Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat.

4 When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch."

5 But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net."

6 And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking.

7 So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink.

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John 21:1-7

21 After these things Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and in this way He showed Himself:

2 Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together.

3 Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We are going with you also." They went out and immediately got into the boat, and that night they caught nothing.

4 But when the morning had now come, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus.

5 Then Jesus said to them, "Children, have you any food?" They answered Him, "No."

6 And He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some."

So they cast, and now they were not able to draw it in because of the multitude of fish.

7 Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment (for he had removed it), and plunged into the sea.

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One of the last things He ever did for them was fix them a meal.

John 21:9

9 Then, as soon as they had come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid on it, and bread.

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The disciples of Jesus were successful on their mission because they learned to depend on God for their daily bread.

Pentecost came and the church was born. God not only provided daily bread for the first disciples but through the church God provided daily bread for over 3000 new converts.

Acts 2:44-47

44 Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common,

45 and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need.

46 So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart,

47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

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Acts 4:34-35

34 Nor was there anyone among them who lacked; for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold,

35 and laid them at the apostles' feet; and they distributed to each as anyone had need.

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Eleven of the 12 men would remain disciples of Jesus. A man named Mathias would replace Judas Iscariot, who betrayed Jesus. Later, the apostle Paul would be added. These thirteen men were all incredible men of faith that trusted God for their daily bread. Without resources or promised support they would follow Jesus and travel to the ends of the earth in order to fulfill their mission.

These disciples believed that if they were on mission for Jesus, God would provide their daily bread!

This lesson Jesus taught His disciples about trusting God for their daily bread was the same lesson that...

- [God taught the Jews in the wilderness](#)

Ex 16:13-16

13 So it was that quails came up at evening and covered the camp, and in the morning the dew lay all around the camp. 14 And when the layer of dew lifted, there, on the surface of the wilderness, was a small round substance, as fine as frost on the ground. 15 So when the children of Israel saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was.

And Moses said to them, "This is the bread which the Lord has given you to eat.

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- [God taught Elijah at the brook Cherith](#)

1 Kings 17:2-7

2 Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, 3 "Get away from here and turn eastward, and hide by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan. 4 And it will be that you shall drink from the brook, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there."

5 So he went and did according to the word of the Lord, for he went and stayed by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan. 6 The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening; and he drank from the brook. 7 And it happened after a while that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land.

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Jesus and his disciples were successful leaders in the kingdom of God because they trusted God for their daily bread. They were not distracted at all from their mission by the cares of this world.

What an incredible way to live!

All believers in Jesus are called to become disciples of Jesus that make disciples. Some of us are called to home missions. Others are called to foreign missions.

Jesus wants everyone of His disciples to stay focused on our mission by trusting God for our daily bread. Jesus wants His disciples to be free from the cares of this world.

[How do we become free from the cares of this world and trust God for our daily bread?](#)

- [Saved \(Romans 10:9-13\)](#)

The promises of God are for the children of God. God did not provide manna from heaven for every nation, only the Jews. To become a child of God, you must receive Jesus. When you receive Jesus, you will be born again and receive His Spirit. You become a child of God. The Spirit of God within you will help you trust God for everything you need to fulfill His mission for your life.

- [Surrender \(Matthew 4:19; Matthew 28:19-20\)](#)

God's purpose for your life as His child is His mission for your life. His mission for all His children is to make disciples for the Kingdom of Jesus. To become a successful disciple of Jesus you need to surrender to His mission for you.

- [Stewardship \(Genesis 2:15; Psalm 24:1; Matthew 25:14-30; I Cor. 4:2\)](#)

Disciples of Jesus are stewards of what belongs to Jesus.

1. [To be a good steward you must surrender all your personal material ambitions to the Lord and find your happiness in your personal relationship with Jesus.](#)

In other words, if all I receive from God is daily bread, I am good with that. This means surrendering to God some vacation you want to take or the new home you want to buy or the new car you want to drive, or some amount you want for your retirement. The Lord knows your heart. As His disciple, what are the personal ambitions you need to surrender to Him?

2. [To be a good steward you must surrender all your money and possessions to God.](#)

We all have something to surrender. Some have more than others. The more you have, the harder it is to surrender.

To be a good steward you must be obedient to what God tells you to do with His money and possessions.

3. [To be a good steward you must free yourself from those entanglements that are causing you to remain focused on the cares of this world.](#)

Most disciples of Jesus will not be in full time ministry supported by the church. Most disciples of Jesus will need to have a tent making job to support their mission as disciples of Jesus.

Do you have the right job? Does your job demand so much of you that you don't have enough time or energy to fulfill your mission as a disciple of Jesus?

Do you have the right relationships? Do you wrong relationships that are distracting you from your mission? Do you have relationships demand so much of you that you don't have enough time or energy to fulfill your mission as a disciple of Jesus?

Do you have the right hobbies? Do your hobbies demand so much of you that you don't have enough time or energy to fulfill your mission as a disciple of Jesus?

Do you have the debt? Do your debts demand so much of you are distracted from your mission as a disciple of Jesus?

All of us have practiced poor stewardship in our life. Everyone here has been foolish at one time or another and made some very poor decisions financially. Some of you are guilty of financial abuse. You are addicted to spending on things that you do not need.

As a result of foolish decisions, your problem may not be just trusting God for your next meal but trusting God to redeem you from being so foolish. You are not just concerned about your next meal but your next bill or your next credit card payment.

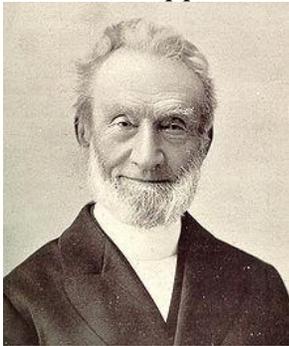
If you do not free yourself from this entanglement your whole life is going to be directed by the cares of this world!

The cares of this world will totally distract you from fulfilling your mission as a disciple of Jesus.

4. To be a good steward you must test God.

Faith is not a noun. It is a verb. Faith in God grows as you test God. Testing God means obeying God when you believe He is telling you to do something radical.

- To the Jews it was tithing nearly 30% of their income.
- To the disciples of Jesus, it was going on mission trips without any resources.
- To the early church it was people selling their possessions and giving the proceeds to support the mission.



To Pastor George Mueller (1805-1898) it was starting an orphanage in Bristol, England with any financial support.



To Gladys Alward (1902-1970) it was buying a one-way ticket to go to China as a missionary without any financial support.



To Corrie Ten Boom (1892-1983) it was giving away her food to support her sister's health in a Nazi prison camp.

To me it started with surrendering to full time ministry.

You need to become a good steward today. You need to surrender all your personal material ambitions to God, surrender all your money and possessions to God, free yourself from the entanglements that are causing you to be focused on the cares of this world, and test God.