

# Message Transcript

THE PRAYER THAT COMBATS WORRY | I'VE GOT A WORD FOR YOU |  
FILMORE BOULDES | MAY 30 & 31, 2026

## Aaron Brockett

Hey, Traders Point fam. I've been looking forward to our guest preacher today for months, Filmore Bouldes. He comes to us all the way from Seattle, Washington where he serves as the lead pastor and church planter of One Church, which is one of the fastest growing churches in the Pacific Northwest. It's also a church that we help support. He and his wife, Caitlin, live there with their daughter, Bloom.

Filmore is currently completing his Master of Arts in Theological Studies at Southeastern University. He's passionate about making the truth of Scripture clear and accessible so people can live it out in everyday life.

I'm really grateful for the way that God has uniquely wired Filmore to reach people in ways that few of us can. I think you'll be really blessed by the message that he brings today. This is his first time to be with us at Traders Point. So, will you please give a warm and rowdy Indiana welcome to our friend as he comes to preach?

## Filmore Bouldes

Thank you so much for the welcome. How are we doing today? Are we feeling good? I want to give a warm welcome to all of the campuses and all of those watching online. And as Pastor Aaron said, my name is Filmore. You've probably never met a Filmore before, but there are three of us in my family. I'm actually Filmore Bouldes the Third.

And I came here with my wonderful wife; I want to introduce them. My wife is here and my baby girl, Bloom, is here. I think we have a photo to show you guys how awesome they are. Yeah. You can clap for them. They are beautiful.

I want to thank you because as Pastor Aaron said, you guys support us. So, thank you for your support. Thank you for your financial generosity. I want to let you know I came all of the way from sunny Seattle to tell you that you are a part of a great church and a generous church. So, thank you for the generosity that you guys have shown us.



And it's actually because of your generosity that we have seen 167 people baptized in 18 months. We are just a church that is 18 months old and in our 18 months we've seen 167 people baptized.

Now, what I am about to say is going to sound pretty holy and spiritual. I've been praying for your city. I've been praying for Indianapolis, Indiana for a few years now. And I know it sounds like I'm holy, but it's actually because Caitlin Clark was drafted to the Indiana Fever. So, I've been praying for the Fever to bring home a WMBA championship. Come on. And the church said: Amen.

We're also glad that Okc Thunder lost last night. Right? There we go. Okay. I said that at the 8 a.m. but no one clapped. But this is the church of faith. This is the service with faith. Okay?

Hey, I want to share today something that is really pressing on my heart. I think it is something that touches us all. Today I want to share with us a prayer that, if we implement it regularly, it will combat the worry in our life today. Has anyone ever worried before? Anyone human? Great. Awesome.

Of course the reason why we want to talk about this is because what worries you masters you. What worries you masters you. And this prayer is actually rooted in Matthew, chapter 6. Matthew, chapter 6, verse 5, Jesus is actually teaching on prayer and He's teaching in response to a question.

The disciples approached Him and said, "Hey, Jesus. Can you teach us how to pray?" Now, this is the only recorded question where the disciples are explicitly asking Jesus to teach them something.

I'm like, "Bro, I would have asked a different question. Water to wine. Feed the five thousand. What about walking on water, bro?" Now, that's a good list but that's not what they asked Him. They said, "Teach us how to pray."

I think what they thought and what they knew and what they understood was that Jesus' public fruit was actually a result of His private prayer. They wanted to know how to pray. So, Jesus responded to them in Matthew, chapter 6. He basically gives us expositional prayer. And in verse 5 here's what He says. He says this:

"When you pray..." Matthew 6:5 (NLT)



When you pray. Notice He doesn't say, "If you pray." Because sometimes we think that prayer is for the people who are on stage. You think that prayer is for Pastor Aaron. You think prayer is for the people who get up here and lead us in worship.

Some of us (not in this church, but my church) we like to think that prayer is like a spiritual gift. No, prayer is not a spiritual gift. Prayer is a spiritual practice. And Jesus wants you and I to know, if we are followers of Jesus, it is not reserved for the spiritual few. I'll let you know that you might not be signed up for this team, but come on, we are all on Jesus' prayer team.

Come on somebody.

Prayer is what we do regularly. Now, speaking of regularly, I do got a beef with some people in here. Okay. I've got a beef with you people who go to the gym regularly. You are very fit, regimented people. You take supplements and drink protein shakes and stuff. I tried to do that after I graduated college. It didn't really work out. Two months then no. Okay?

But at my church in Seattle we've got these people who do the 75 Hard. Have you ever heard of it? At other campuses have you ever heard of the 75 Hard? Okay, let me tell you if you haven't heard of it—75 days straight, no exceptions. You have to do two workouts a day, one outside. You have to follow a strict meal. You also have to drink one gallon of water daily. You have to read 10 pages of a non-fiction book. You have to take one progress photo. But if you skip any of those, on any day, you have to start over from day one.

No. It couldn't be me. But praise God. When I see these friends I'm so impressed by the transformation. And here's why their body is transformed, because I think what Pastor Craig Groeschel says is right. It's not what you do occasionally that makes the biggest difference in your life, but it's what you do consistently that matters most. And if it is true in fitness, guess what? It's also true in prayer.

So, today I want to look at this prayer in Matthew, chapter 6, that if you pray it, it's going to transform your relationship with worry in your life. Now, before we get into this prayer I do want to let you know that you do not have to be prophetic or a Christian to understand that we live in a society and culture that is plagued by worry.

### **What is Worry? Worry is being anxious about tomorrow, while still living today**

Worry, so we can all get on the same page, is being anxious about tomorrow while still living in today.



A recent report in the NY Post said 47% of Americans live in a constant state of worry

A New York Post article recently tells us that 47 percent of Americans, half of the room, are living in a constant state of worry. We worry about our kids. We worry about our families. We worry about our finances. We worry about our health. We worry about the future. We worry about our kids' school and tuition. But, guess what? I'm not sure if you know this. I came here all of the way from Seattle, guys, to tell you this. With all of your worrying, nothing is changing. Nothing changed. You spent all of those hours biting your nails and nothing has changed except for your nails.

Jesus puts it this way in Matthew, chapter 6, verse 27. He said this:

"Can anyone of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?" (NIV)

Can you? No! He wants you to know that worry never adds to your life, it only subtracts from your life.

### **The average American spends over 2 hours a day worrying**

In fact, the average American spends over two hours a day worrying—two hours a day. That's two hours of wasted imagination. That's two hours of wasted focus. That's two hours of wasted effort. That's 14 hours in your week—quick math. I went to public school. Don't ask me, you know. But, today, I hope that this message and this prayer can reclaim the two hours in your life.

Now, here's the lie that we believe. We believe that if we have more affluence and influence then, guess what? All of our worry will go away. Or, we believe the lie of arrival. You know the lie of arrival. Right? It's like, "When I get there then all of my worries will go away." The problem with there is that when you get there, there becomes here and you've got a new there.

You get the kids. Now you're worried about the grandkids. You get the job. Now you are worried about the promotion. You get the house. Now you are worried about the mortgage. Right? We have this idea that we think if we have more we'll have less worry.

Or, if we have more affluence. But the World Health Organization would like us to know that America is ranked as the top three most affluent societies, but in all the data, guess what? We're also the most worried society.



I came here all of the way from Seattle to tell you, my friend, that your worry is not solved by having more stuff. Your worry is not solved by better health. Your worry is not solved by more money, although it might be helpful. It is not solved by more control. Your worry, and the antidote to your worry, is learning to pray and live in this truth that Jesus said in Matthew 6, verse 11. And here's what He says:

"Give us today our daily bread." (NIV)

Give us today—someone say today. Oh, come on. This is the last service. Someone say with your chest today. Today. There we go. Jesus teaches us to consistently pray for daily bread.

Now, I know what some of you are thinking. What's so good about bread? Because I went to City Barbecue—I did yesterday, actually. And I ordered the three meat combo. Glory to God: brisket, pork, and chicken. God's greatest trio. Glory to God. And the lady says, "Hey, would you like toast with it? It comes on the side." And we think bread is a side dish. We think that's what comes out before your meal at Red Lobster—those biscuits are good though. Glory to God.

No, no, no. One New Testament scholar by the name of Craig Keener tells us this. Up to 70 percent of a Jewish diet consisted of bread—70 percent. Maybe in your culture it's rice. In another culture it's beans.

But in the Jewish diet it was 70 percent, which is to say they needed bread for their survival. Bread was essential. So, when Jesus prays for daily bread, here's what I need us to get. He's talking about your provision and sustenance to live a life that will allow you to flourish. Put simply, daily prayer means all things necessary for daily life.

I wonder if there is anyone in this room today who has spiritual necessities. I wonder if anyone in this room ever has emotional necessities. I wonder if there is anyone here today who has physical necessities. Jesus wants you to live in the truth of the promise and the provision and the comfort with the fact that, guess what? He's going to provide for you your daily bread.

Now, we know this prayer. This prayer is called The Lord's Prayer. Right? We know The Lord's Prayer. I used to pray this over my baseball games.

**Prayer starts with God—not our lists or needs. "Our Father in heaven."**



Now, in the first part of The Lord's Prayer what do we say? Our Father in heaven. I love that because Jesus is teaching them how to pray. And what does He start with? He doesn't start with our needs. He starts with who God is.

### **The God who rules the universe also cares about the needs of your life today**

Ooh, that's good. That's a good word for somebody. You need to know your prayer should not start with your list. Come on. Your prayer should start focused on who God is. Come on. He's our Father and He's in heaven.

### **Prayer surrenders to God—not our way but His. "Your Kingdom come, Your will be done."**

And then we get to, "Your Kingdom come." It's not our kingdom. That's our problem. It's not your kingdom. It's God's Kingdom. Glory to God. It's, "Your Kingdom come, Your will be done." It's about surrender.

In this first part of The Lord's Prayer He's teaching us a pattern, a rhythm. He's giving us a template. So the first part of our prayer life or a portion of our prayer life should be devotion to God.

But then there is this pivot that happens. It moves to our bread, our deliverance, our forgiveness. So, the first half is about devotion to God and the second half is about how to pivot on God.

### **The God who rules the universe also cares about the needs of your life today**

And here's what we see. The God who rules the universe, the God who breathes and galaxies are formed, the God who knows every hair on your head and every sand on every seashore in all of the earth is the God who knows every single person. He who created the mountains and the oceans and the seas, guess what? The God who rules the universe, He cares about the needs of your life today.

He's not just a God who is powerful. Ooh, I've got some good news for you today. He's a God who is personal. Why is this important? Because some of us treat God like a 911 dispatcher. Okay? And we only call on Him when we've got emergencies.

We treat Him like the emergency contact that I always get asked about every time I go to the doctor. I've told you a million times, "It's my wife. Stop asking me." We treat God like the emergency contact we put on form before we go to see the physician.



I want to tell you that God doesn't just care about your emergencies. He cares about your every day. He doesn't just care about your bills. Or He doesn't just care about your big crisis. He cares about your bills, your parenting, the ordinary stuff of your life. If it matters to you, guess what? It matters to Him.

Which means that you should talk to God about your spiritual needs. You should talk to God about your emotional needs. You should talk to God about your physical needs. Guess what? Not as a last resort, but as a first response. Why is this important? Because some of you talk to your spouse before you talk to God. I know we just met each other and I'm all in your business, but some of you talk to your friends before you talk to God. Some of you talk to your therapist before you talk to God. Some of you talk to your counselor. That's good. Talk to your counselor. But guess what? Have you talked to the Divine Counselor first?

### **God cares about your daily bread so you don't have to live on daily worry**

Because I want to show you today how God cares about your daily bread so that you don't have to live in daily worry.

### **Worry is just being anxious about tomorrow's bread instead of trusting God for today's bread**

See, worry is being anxious about tomorrow's bread instead of trusting God, that He's going to provide today's provision. Daily bread defeats sin and worry.

Now, let's go back to the text, Matthew, chapter 6, verse 11:

"Give us today our daily bread."

Now, we know what He says. Now, it's important to know what He didn't say. It's really important. It's like Bible interpretation 101. We know what He said, we know what He didn't say. He didn't say, "God, God, give us today enough bread for the next thirty years."

That would be fun, wouldn't it? If God gave you everything that you need for the future today. Here's why He doesn't do that. Because if He gave you everything in advance that you need today, you would forget Him tomorrow. Matter of fact, you'd forget Him in three hours. So often the human condition shows us that we get the blessing but we forget the Blessor.



You've read the Old Testament. You've read the book of Judges. It's like a replay. They get blessed. Then they crash out. God rescues, blesses, they forget Him. Why? Because we so often forget the Blessor when we are living in the blessing.

Now, here's how this shows up at my church. Not your church, but my church. We've got people (because I'm a young pastor, and our church is full of Millennials and Gen Z) who come and say, "Pastor, Pastor, Pastor..." This is like the number one prayer request I get. I'd love to pray for you. You want prayer, I'll pray for you." "Hey, Pastor. I want to get married. I want to find a Christian spouse." Some of you are laughing like, "Me too. Me too."

And I pray, "Hey, right now I thank You that You have this for them. God, You provide." And guess what? God is so good. Come on. Listen people. In our church, and in the churches that I have led for over the years they have found a spouse. God has provided for them in the house of God. Come on. That's amazing.

But, before you clap, remember what we are talking about. Receiving the blessing and forgetting the Blessor. They get the spouse. I officiate the wedding. Twelve months later I ain't seeing them at none of the services. "Where are you at? You met in the house of God, then you forget and neglect the God who provided for you what you were praying for and then staying up all night for. For what was keeping you worried sick."

Okay. Maybe that doesn't relate to you. How many of you, right now, got the job? You prayed for the job and you complain to God about the job that you prayed for. You are so ungrateful for the job, about your boss, but you are worried sick because you don't know how you are going to pay for your rent. But God provided for you.

And I think part of why God portions out blessings in our life and why He doesn't give us the bread that we need for the next 30 years is actually so that we can be reminded to return to Him every single day.

We see this training in the book of Exodus. In Exodus, chapter 16, we see God bringing people out of slavery for 40 years. It's a foreshadowing, it's a picture, of the slavery that you and I have been saved from by Jesus. It's a foreshadowing, a picturing of the cross. They are saved from slavery and they are going into the Promised Land.



That's a good understanding of salvation, by the way. Salvation is not just what God saves you from. Some of you are just so obsessed with what God saved you from. I've got some good news. He doesn't just save you from sin, He saves you for a flourishing relationship with Christ.

So, they are saved but they are in this transition and they find themselves in the wilderness. And guys, it's the desert. Guess what? They could not farm or grow food. But they still had needs.

And some of you may feel like you are in a proverbial drought or a proverbial desert. Guess what? God can still provide for you. Because look at what He did. He got creative and literally, for forty years straight you know what my God did? This is what He did. He dropped manna from heaven for forty years straight.

Here's the catch. He only gave them enough for that day. And when they tried to hoard it, it spoiled overnight. Because God was not just interested in feeding their stomachs, He was trying to train their hearts to return to Him and to trust Him every single day. Because when God provides for you, He's not just trying to solve a hunger problem, He's trying to build a trust habit.

And I believe He wanted Israel to have this habit of trust when they woke up every morning believing that God is going to be faithful to them today, "I know He did it yesterday. I know He did it five years ago. I know He did it 10 years ago. I know He did it 15 years ago. But guess what? I've got fresh faith that He is going to provide today."

I've got a question. Have you ever babysat a toddler? Have you? They want to be picked up and thrown around and stuff. I just told you I'm not a gym person. I don't have the muscles for that. But some of you do. Pray for me.

I was babysitting this toddler the other day and you know she's like, "Hi, pick me up." Because her dad does it. But her dad is 6'5". I'm vertically challenged. So, I pick her up. Throw her. She's excited. She's laughing. She gets down. You know what she does as soon as she hits the floor? "Again." You guys know where I'm going, don't you? After about the ninth again I'm like, "Bro, I'm exhausted."

But you know I'm glad God never gets exhausted from us asking Him. I'm glad He never runs out of patience. And I think this is a picture of how God wants you and I to approach Him.



You know the Bible calls us to have a child-like trust. Come on. God doesn't have any grandkids. He only has kids. And He wants you and I to operate with this trust where we look at Him and say, "God, I've some things in my marriage that need fixed, but I trust that you are going provide today, again." "I need peace, again." "I need joy, again." "I need you to provide, again."

Clive Staples, C.S. Lewis, says this:

**"Relying on God has to begin all over again every day."**

Now, let me be clear because I know some of you are wondering, I know some of you five-year planners, I know some of you people are type "A", you are amazing and you are like, "Okay, Filmore, Pastor Filmore, does this mean I should not plan?" That's not what I am saying. Daily bread does not mean that God is opposed to you planning for tomorrow.

**God isn't opposed to planning for tomorrow; He's opposed to trusting the plan more than you trust in Him**

But here's what I want you to get. God isn't opposed to you planning for tomorrow, but God is opposed to you trusting in your plan more than you trust in Him. Some of you, here's how you know that you trust in the plan. You only have peace when the budget is balanced. You only have peace when you see step five come into fruition in your ten-step plan.

But I'll let you know, God doesn't just order your path. Guess what? He orders your steps. And He's going to give you the peace and the bread that you need today so that you can come back to Him tomorrow.

**Application: How to reclaim those two hours a day in prayer**

Okay, so what am I to do with this information? You're telling me you need daily bread for daily worry. So, what I want to do is I'm going to give you three ways that we can reclaim those two hours of your life. If we learn to live in this fruitfulness in this promise of daily bread consistently, I believe we can rewire how we see our needs, our peace, and also the people around us.

**Provision—"Father, I trust You'll meet my needs today."**

The first one is provision. Come on say it with your chest, provision. Here's what I want us to write down, "Father, I trust You'll meet my needs today." I trust that You will meet my needs today.



I've got a question for you. I hope you can be honest about it. I'm going to be honest. (I don't know why I just spun around, that was weird.) How much of your worry is about what is sitting in front of you today? And how much of your worry is about bread that you don't need until the future?

Most of my worries are actually based on future bread, provisions that I don't even need yet. I had to check myself because I just showed you my wonderful daughter. Her name is Bloom. She's five months old.

You know, the other day I was on the internet and I found this article about the negative effects that social media is having on teenaged girls. And I found myself worrying about the effects it will have on my daughter. And then I go, "Okay, here's the plan to stop my worry. Guess what? I'm not going to give her a phone until she's 37." That's the plan.

Then I had a reality check, "Bro, she's five months old. She don't even need to be thinking about a phone, so neither do you. You need to trust that God is going to give you everything that you need to be the parent that He has called you to be today."

I want to talk to some of you who are college students in here. Any college students in here? I've got a lot of college students at my church. The other day (you think this is preacher embellishment, but this is not preacher embellishment) I heard them talking about, "You know what? I'm really worried about what I'm going to do after retirement."

I'm like, "Bro, first of all, let's get through your freshman year. Okay? Unless you are a trust fund baby, you've got a lot of work ahead of you. Okay? Let's get you through your first term. There we go. Let's go."

Maybe you're here today and you're like, "I really worry if I'm going to have what I need to be the spouse that I need when I become an empty nester." Your kids are five.

Jesus never promised me future bread today. He promised me today's bread. Listen. Understand this truth. Jesus never promises you future bread today. He doesn't promise me the bread that I need when my daughter is 15 today. He doesn't promise me the bread that I need when I have a church that has two campuses, three campuses. He doesn't promise me that today.

You know what He promises me? He promises me what I need today, Sunday, May 31. Give me bread today. Give me what I need to parent today. Give me what I need to be a good spouse today. Give me what I need to be who you called me to be today. For today's decisions. Today's parenting. For today. Not tomorrow, but today.



Now, I remind you of the God we are praying to. Because the God we are praying to is a God of abundance. Hear me out. I'm not saying that God is somehow stingy. No. God is abundant. He is abundant. Here's what you've got to get. There has never been a shortage in heaven. Come on somebody. Heaven has never heard about a recession before. Come on. God owns the cattle on a thousand hills. He is a God of abundant supply. The shelves of God's provision have never been empty.

But if you find that God is portioning out His blessing, hear me out. It's not to hold you back from what He wants for you, it's actually to hold you close, to hold your heart close. And this is why in seasons of prosperity so often we forget God. This is why in seasons of prosperity...

Some of you actually need to thank God for the hard times that you are going through. Why? Because they actually push you closer to Him. Charles Spurgeon says, "I thank God for the problems that push me toward the Rock of Ages."

And here's what I want us to get. Here's this truth in Psalm 37:25 for anyone here who is a child of God. Get this down in your soul and your spirit. Make this a daily confession. It says this:

"I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging for bread."  
(NIV)

You are righteous, not because of what you do, but because of what Jesus has done for you on your behalf.

**Peace—"Father, I trust you'll calm my worried thoughts today."**

So, the second "P"—they are all "P"s because I'm a preacher—alliteration, you know? The second "P" is peace. "Father, I trust you'll calm my worried thoughts today." Not tomorrow, today. Not in the future, today. Not in 30 years, today. Not when I go to work tomorrow, or in three days, or when I get that interview, or when I have to do... No, I trust that today, actually, the worried thoughts that come my way, You are going to calm them because You provide daily bread.

Can I ask a question? Who remembers the year that will not be named? I'm not going to say it: 2020. In 2020 I was living in New York City. So, we had COVID for about five years. You know? You think it's a joke. It's not. Okay?

I remember one of the things I quickly figured out was the way that most of us started to deal with worry by hoarding. You know where I'm going with this. You saw it on the news. Who remembers the toilet paper craze? That was a real thing. Okay? People were filling up the subways. It looked like an Amazon warehouse from the subway, bro.



Why do we do this? Because when life feels out of our control, we like to grab for whatever we can control. And worry is sort of the picture that we have on the inside of what I saw at Trader Joes in 2020. It's like we're trying to hoard, we're basing the spiritual version of hoarding to say in our soul, "I don't trust You enough to come through so I have to handle it myself. I have to stockpile it myself. I have to get all of the possessions that I need and all of the stuff that I need." But you do not hoard your way into peace in your soul. You have to receive peace from Jesus.

Here's what I need you to get. Those people who had all of that toilet paper were still anxious on the inside. You need to get this. Peace does not come from what you possess. Peace comes from having a faith and a trust in who possesses you. And the one who possesses you, He knows every hair on your head. Here's how Jesus says it in Matthew, chapter 6, verse 25:

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them."

Ooh, I love this. I hope you get this. I hope you get this 11:15. I hope you get this online. I hope you get this at all of the campuses:

"Are you not much more valuable than they?" Matthew 6:25-26 (NIV)

Here's what I want you to get. Be wise about tomorrow. But don't worry about tomorrow. Be wise about tomorrow. But don't worry about tomorrow.

Contextually, the thing that you are reading in this passage is that the birds that Jesus was referring to are sparrows. Now, one of the things you've got to know about sparrows is that they weren't like cute, pet birds. Okay. Noone was having a pet sparrow. They were overlooked. There were unnoticed.

And Jesus wants you (and I) to know that if He looks after the overlooked and unnoticed birds, ooh, how much more will He feed you? How much more will He supply for you? How much more will He provide for you? And if God feeds the birds, guess what? He's going to feed you. Birds don't stress over inflation. They don't clock in or punch a nine to five. They don't build barns. And Jesus wants you to know that if He feeds the birds, He'll feed you.

Now, here's what I want you to pray every time you see a bird: tweet, tweet; tweet, tweet. Is that what birds make? I don't know. I don't know the sound. But every time you see a bird this week I need you to hear the whisper of heaven that says over your life, "If I feed them, guess what? I'll feed you, son." "If I feed them, I'll feed you daughter."



Calm your worried thoughts because peace does not come by what the news says. Peace does not come by what society says. Peace does not come from fearmongering or whatever. No, peace comes from the One who holds your heart. And His name is Jesus. And He's the Prince of Peace.

**People—"Father, provide for someone else through me today."**

The last one is this. It's people, people. And here's what I want us to write down, "Father, provide for someone else through me today."

Now, this might feel a little bit out of order because you're like, "Bro, I thought this was all supposed to be focused on me. You're talking about my provision and my peace. Why are you talking about other people?"

That's your problem. The fastest way to worry is to obsess over yourself. I think Proverbs 11, this is not in my notes, but I think Proverbs 11, verse 25 is right. Do you know what it says? Those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed. Now, notice what the text says, "Give us, today." "Give us our daily bread." This is not something that is just me today, "Give me my daily bread." Because this is not just a personal prayer, it's a communal one and it reminds us that following Jesus was never just meant to be a solo project.

I've found that many of us get bored with our faith because all of our prayers are about our needs. All of our prayers are about ourselves. The quickest way to get bored with Christianity is to make your faith about you.

And you find something fascinating because Jesus teaches on this prayer in Matthew, chapter 6, but He also teaches on it in Luke, chapter 11. And right after He teaches us to pray give us our daily bread, Jesus tells a story about a man who had no bread for his guest.

It's a story about prayer. But it's a story and He uses bread as an analogy. You think that's a coinkydink? It's not a coinkydink. It's not a coincidence. He's showing us something. The man had no bread for his guest. The man had no bread for those around him. So, he went to ask his neighbor, at midnight, to help.

By the way, that's the kind of access you have to God where you can go at midnight and wake Him up, even though He's not asleep, but you get the metaphor. You have that type of access.

And notice the man was not asking for himself. The man was asking for someone else. This is the heart of, "Give us today our daily bread." Sometimes I don't have the bread, but you do. Sometimes you don't have the bread, but I do. And God often provides by putting bread in one set of hands. But guess what? It meets another set of needs.



Here's how I wrote it down. Get this. God, the Father, does not just delight to provide for you. He wants to provide through you. And we have many Christians who have a lot of blessings, a lot of consumption, a lot of podcasts, a lot of sermons. But I would say we just consume and consume and consume and we have a form of what I would call spiritual bloating.

But guess what? What God gives you and the bread that God gives you is not just meant to stop with you, it's meant to be shared. And sometimes God may be giving you extra in a season, but it's not to increase your standard of living. It's actually to increase your standard of giving. If you have more than you need, guess what? Your bread might be the answer to someone else's prayer.

I want to tell you, I'm the product of someone else's generosity. I am a product of someone else's serving. I would not be here today... I could tell you a lot of stories about the people who have served me selflessly. I'm here today because people went out of the way to provide for me: spiritually, emotionally, physically. They showed me the love of Christ.

Who's going to be at Traders Point in the future? Who is going to be here in the future because of how you shared with those around you the blessing that is never supposed to stop with you?

But I would be remiss if I just talked about the temporary needs that you have, friend. As we close, we've got to understand daily bread matters. Jesus taught us to pray it. He cares about your rent. He cares about your anxiety. He cares about your relationships. Don't minimize that. Jesus taught us to pray for it.

But there is a bread beyond physical bread. What I mean by that is, Jesus said this in John 6, verse 35. He said:

"I am the bread of life."

"I am that which is essential for life. I am not a side piece. I'm not a side item. I'm not something that you just add on as an accessory." Can I tell you this? Jesus did not come to earth to be an accessory in your life. He says this:

"Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." (NIV)

What is He saying? Your life is about more than your temporal needs being met. See, I've found that when I put my greatest need, which is my need for my eternal soul to be satisfied and saved in Christ, when I put my greatest need in context to my spiritual need oftentimes my worries will alleviate.



And here's the biggest picture. When He says, "I am the bread of life," He's saying this. Your soul was created to be satisfied in something that world cannot offer you. The fact that you and I get physically hungry, guess what? It is like a daily hunger. It's a daily sign. It's a daily trigger from God to show you, guess what? To prove how much you need Me.

It's meant to be a signal or a parable for your spiritual hunger. That's how God set it up. You don't just have temporal needs. You have eternal needs. He did not just come to hand out bread; He came to be bread.

Let me close with this. Let me close with this for anyone who is considering Jesus. But for all of us, what's the biggest need in your life right now? It is your marriage? Is it your finances? Is it your health? Is it your prodigal child? Is it the diagnosis you're scared of? The loneliness you feel that you can't shake?

I'm not minimizing those needs, but if we can extrapolate those to the end, they all have temporal consequences. I'm not going to minimize that. But I want to gently push on something. The biggest need in your life is not the most painful one, not the most prominent one, not even the most pressing one. The biggest need that all of you have in this place is the most permanent one.

The Bible is clear. How you and I respond to the bread of life, how you and I respond to Jesus, will have permanent consequences. Hear me out. I know I was fun and I was laughing, but I'm going to get serious right now. This is important.

I just got the worst text that you could receive. Today, right before I walked on stage, a friend of mine, young, just passed away. He's got a one-year-old. Just passed away. So, this is like life is a vapor. This is how we respond to Jesus. I'm grateful. I'm going to grieve. I'm going to cry. I'm going to talk to his family. But my hope is also in the fact that I will not grieve like those without a hope. I will see him again with Jesus.

Here's the point I'm trying to say. This matters. The bread of life, He's the bread who offers you eternal life. He gives you eternal satisfaction. He gives you eternal life. He gives you what your soul truly needs.

If you want to put your faith in Jesus you need three things. One: you need to acknowledge that hunger inside. What do I mean by that? I gave my life to Jesus in 2011 and I was fairly popular. I was fairly a college athlete. I had a bit of clout. You know what I'm saying? But guess what? I was empty. All success without Jesus—it was empty. There was no substance in it.



You are here today and you need to be honest; you are treating Jesus as an accessory. Here's what you need to be honest about. Everywhere else that you are going will not satisfy. Only Jesus will satisfy. And you know that relationship is keeping you empty. You know that person you keep going back to is leaving you empty. You know putting that job above God is leaving you empty. Acknowledge that that hunger is there. Don't fool yourself. You're hungry. You need Jesus.

And then you've got to believe that Jesus is actually, truly the answer. Here's what wrecks me. On the cross. Jesus, the bread of life, the One who said, "Whoever comes to me will never thirst," being hung and dying on the cross, He said two words. He said this, "I thirst."

He said, "I thirst." What does that mean? The One who satisfies every hunger, guess what? He took on the emptiness of all of humankind, the emptiness that we feel with life without Jesus. That's what sin is, it separates you from God. He took all of that in one moment.

You know that emptiness you feel after you sin. All of humanity, the billions and billions and billions of people, in one moment Jesus experienced that on the cross. He experienced emptiness for a moment so you will not have to for eternity. Believe that. Believe that He is the answer.

Then the last is you confess. You confess that He is the Lord. If you are here today and you want to give your life to Jesus I'm going to lead you in a prayer of salvation. Every head bowed. Every eye closed. If you want to receive the bread of life, this is serious, eternity hinges in the way you respond.

If you are here today and you want to receive Jesus, on the count of three, if you want to be led in a prayer: one, two three lift your hand up all across this place, all across this place, all across this place. Awesome. Awesome. Awesome. Awesome. Awesome. Awesome.

Repeat after me, everyone in this room loud and proud, but especially those who lifted up their hand.

Dear Jesus, thank You for choosing me. Thank You for saving me. Today I confess with my mouth and I believe in my heart that you are Lord, You are risen from the grave. Today, I believe and I receive the bread of life. Amen.

