Day Six - Filled to Overflowing

Suggested Format for United Prayer

"Give us this day our daily bread" (Matthew 6:11).

Praise

- Praise God for supplying our every need. "His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness..." (2 Peter 1:3).
- How has God provided for you recently? Praise Him for the specific ways He has provided for your physical, mental, spiritual, and social needs today, this past week, etc.

Confession

- Do you trust in God to provide for every area of your life? Allow God to examine your heart and show you anything He needs to reveal to you. Then confess your sin and accept His forgiveness.
- Have you freely shared of the resources God has given you—time, money, talents, etc.—with those in need? If not, ask God to show you how to make things right. Is God asking you to give of yourself in some way to help those in need?

Supplication and Intercession

- Claim the promise of the Holy Spirit, who gives us life through the Word of God. "Surely I will pour out my spirit on you; I will make my words known to you" (Proverbs 1:23).
- Pray for Seventh-day Adventists to be "people of the Word" who study the Bible (and Spirit of Prophecy) and put into practice the things God teaches them. "[Labor] for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you..." (John 6:27).
- Intercede for the millions worldwide who are both physically and spiritually hungry to be filled. Pray for Adventist organizations (including ADRA, Adventist Community Services, and others) that are working to help these people to have the resources they need to accomplish their work.
- Pray that you, your local church, and our world church will know how to meet the needs of the poor and needy around us. Pray that we will become truly service-oriented.
- MTTC: For the work in New York to continue to yield an abundant harvest and that will begin the "mighty movement" promised when we work the cities. (See MM 304 and COL 143.)
- Pray for Adventist education to be all that God intends it to be. Especially pray that teachers will know God personally so they can feed students the "Bread of Life." Pray for your local SDA school(s).
- With another person, pray for your five individuals and the individuals on a card from the box, to become eager Bible students so they can fall in love with Jesus.
- What do you need today? Ask God for it and praise Him for providing it.
- Pray for other requests that are on your heart.

Thanksgiving

- Thank God that Jesus is "the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst" (John 6:35).
- Praise Him in faith for the miracles He is creating in answer to your prayers.

Suggested Songs to Sing

"Come, Holy Spirit"; "Break Thou the Bread of Life" (SDAH # 271); "This Little Light of Mine"; "So Send I You" (SDAH #578); "Rescue the Perishing" (SDAH #367); "I Love to Tell the Story" (SDAH #457).

Ellen White on the Lord's Prayer

"Give us this day our daily bread" (Matthew 6:11).

The first half of the prayer Jesus has taught us is in regard to the name and kingdom and will of God—that His name may be honored, His kingdom established, His will performed. When you have thus made God's service your first interest, you may ask with confidence that your own needs may be supplied. If you have renounced self and given yourself to Christ you are a member of the family of God, and everything in the Father's house is for you. All the treasures of God are opened to you, both the world that now is and that which is to come. The ministry of angels, the gift of His Spirit, the labors of His servants—all are for you. The world, with everything in it, is yours so far as it can do you good. Even the enmity of the wicked will prove a blessing by disciplining you for heaven. If "ye are Christ's," "all things are yours." 1 Cor. 3:23, 21.

But you are as a child who is not yet placed in control of his inheritance. God does not entrust to you your precious possession, lest Satan by his wily arts should beguile you, as he did the first pair in Eden. Christ holds it for you, safe beyond the spoiler's reach. Like the child, you shall receive day by day what is required for the day's need. Every day you are to pray, "Give us this day our daily bread." Be not dismayed if you have not sufficient for tomorrow. You have the assurance of His promise, "So shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed." David says, "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread." Psalm 37:3, 25. That God who sent the ravens to feed Elijah by the brook Cherith will not pass by one of His faithful, self-sacrificing children. Of him that walketh righteously it is written: "Bread shall be given him; his waters shall be sure." "They shall not be ashamed in the evil time: and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied." "He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?" Isaiah 33:16; Psalm 37:19; Romans 8:32. He who lightened the cares and anxieties of His widowed mother and helped her to provide for the household at Nazareth, sympathizes with every mother in her struggle to provide her children food. He who had compassion on the multitude because they "fainted, and were scattered abroad" (Matthew 9:36), still has compassion on the suffering poor. His hand is stretched out toward them in blessing; and in the very prayer which He gave His disciples, He teaches us to remember the poor.

When we pray, "Give us this day our daily bread," we ask for others as well as ourselves. And we acknowledge that what God gives us is not for ourselves alone. God gives to us in trust, that we may feed the hungry. Of His goodness He has prepared for the poor. Psalm 68:10. And He says, "When thou makest a dinner or a supper, call not thy friends, nor thy brethren, neither thy kinsmen, nor thy rich neighbors.... But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind: and thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just." Luke 14:12-14.

"God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work." "He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully." 2 Corinthians 9:8, 6.

The prayer for daily bread includes not only food to sustain the body, but that spiritual bread which will nourish the soul unto life everlasting. Jesus bids us, "Labor not for the meat which perishes, but for that meat which endures unto everlasting life... I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live forever." John 6:27, 51. Our Savior is the bread of life, and it is by beholding His love, by receiving it into the soul, that we feed upon the bread which came down from heaven.

We receive Christ through His word, and the Holy Spirit is given to open the word of God to our understanding, and bring home its truths to our hearts. We are to pray day by day that as we read His word, God will send His Spirit to reveal to us the truth that will strengthen our souls for the day's need.

In teaching us to ask every day for what we need—both temporal and spiritual blessings—God has a purpose to accomplish for our good. He would have us realize our dependence upon His constant care, for He is seeking to draw us into communion with Himself. In this communion with Christ, through prayer and the study of the great and precious truths of His word, we shall as hungry souls be fed; as those that thirst, we shall be refreshed at the fountain of life.