



Date: _____
Series: Prayer Walk Mall
Fall Year 2, Lesson 23

Daily Food Court – Praying for Provision

Take Home Point: *Pray every day for physical needs – God will provide. *Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson.

Bible Event: Luke 11:3, Exodus 16:13-21. God provides manna.

Key Verse: Philippians 4:19, “My God will richly fill your every need in a glorious way through Christ Jesus.”

We will help kids know:

- When we pray daily provision for ourselves and others, we grow in our trust in God as we see God’s hand provide for us.
- We need to pray for our daily needs, but we can also pray for our weekly wants. However, we need to know the difference.
- It is wrong to whine about our material possessions when he gives us so much.

We will help kids feel:

- Dependant on God, willing to speak to him regularly about our needs and the needs of others.
- Thankful for the way God meets our needs and wants, as well as the needs of others.

We will help kids do:

- Play a game called the Leaning Tower of Oreos.
- Read and discuss the Bible event in Exodus 16:13-21.
- Write in prayer journals their personal wants and needs and those of others.

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Small Group Warm-Up 	3	Kids eat a piece of plain flour tortilla as they tell about their needs. They get a bite of a cinnamon-sugar tortilla as they describe their wants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • two flour tortillas (one buttered in advance) • butter • cinnamon and sugar • knife • plate
Large Group 	3 6	Overview Teaching Presentation: Dayton Lee Trustin teaches about trusting in God daily at his store – the Daily Food Court.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any props that help picture a store called Daily Food Court, such as a sign, cashier's table, or shelves • presentation sized map of Prayer Walk Mall with stores labeled (from past weeks). An arrow says, "You are here" pointing to Daily Food Court (This map is just outside the "store.") • shelf filled tortillas broken into little pieces and Oreo cookies • six paper plates—two of these plates will have a cutout cross or a cross made with a marker in the middle of the plate • two tables for the game • costume for Dayton Lee Trustin such as an oversized nametag, chef's hat, hair net, sanitation gloves, or apron • background music of a worship song giving thanks to God
Small Group Application 	4	Kids review the Bible event and take time to write in their prayer journals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prayer journals

Small Group Warm-Up: 15 minutes



Purpose: *Get pointed in the right direction!* Build relationships and help guests feel at ease. Do the learning readiness activity that will point your group in the right direction for the lesson.

As kids gather: *Listen to memory verses from last week and give coupons for memory verses, remembering to bring your Bible, and bringing a guest.*

Supplies needed: two flour tortillas (one buttered in advance), cinnamon and sugar, plastic knife, and a plate

Tear off a piece of the unbuttered tortilla and eat it as you describe this activity. Have kids each share a time they felt very hungry and let them have a piece of the tortilla when they share.

After everyone has shared, bring out the buttered tortilla. Sprinkle it with cinnamon and sugar. With a plastic knife, cut this into pieces to be shared. Say:

We need healthy food to nourish our bodies. Now let's talk about not just what we *need*, but what we *want*.

There is a difference between needs and wants. Wants are things not needed to keep us alive, but make life taste a little better. For example, one thing I want and would like to have is...

Give an example of a want. Ask the kids to name something they don't need, but want. Let kids have a piece of the cinnamon-sugar tortilla as they share a "want."

Today we are going to discover how God asks us to pray for both our needs and wants, and the needs and wants of others. We will learn to **pray every day for physical needs and God will provide, but he also gives us something very special. We will discover what that is today.*

Large Group Overview: 20-30 minutes



Purpose: *Help kids observe what the Bible says. Present the Bible event in creative fashion. Help kids begin to interpret what it means.*

Teaching Presentation: Dayton Lee Trustin teaches about trusting in God daily at his store, the Daily Food Court.

Small Group Application: 20-25 minutes



Purpose: *Help kids map out the meaning of the Bible event in their lives. Use the questions to stimulate discussion, but don't feel tied to them. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you. Include personal examples from your own faith journey. The example of Christ at work in your life will leave lasting impressions of how Christ can work in the children's lives.*

Use your Bibles! Children need to learn how to look up references and follow along when scripture is read aloud. Allow for quality time of prayer at the close of the lesson.

Observation Questions: What happened?/Interpretation Questions: What does this mean?

Have kids refer to Exodus 16:13-21 in their Bibles.

Describe what manna was like. *(Exodus 16:14. A thin layer of flakes like frost on the ground left after the morning dew evaporated.)*

What do you think it would have been like to wake up and see manna for the first time?

Read Exodus 16:17-18.

Did the people gather equal amounts of manna? *(No, some gathered more, others gathered less.) Why do you think God let there be different amounts gathered?*

Did the people ever have too much or not enough? *(No. They had just as much as they could eat.)*

What happened if the people became too stingy? *(Exodus 16:20. It became rotten, full of worms and stinking.)*

What lesson did God want to teach them? *(They did not have to hoard. He would provide what they needed.)*

Going Deeper:

The disciples who followed Jesus didn't have many possessions. Do you think they felt more content than people today or less content? Why?

Who is the bread of life? *(Jesus.)*

Why do you think Jesus called himself the bread of life? *(Because he is our daily sustenance. He gives us our spiritual food that we need daily.)*

Application Questions: What does this mean to me?

Would you have been able to trust God to provide the manna every day or do you think you would have saved some for the next day? Have you ever eaten so much that you got sick? Why do we sometimes do that?

Our key verse from Philippians 4:19 says, *“My God will richly fill your every need in a glorious way through Christ Jesus.”*

What words in this verse say that God wants to give us more than just food and shelter to survive? (*Richly, every need in a glorious way.*) Romans 8:32 explains the why and how.

Have kids read Romans 8:32.

Does this sound like a stingy God? How much is he willing to give us?

If God would give his most precious Jesus to die for us, surely he wants to give us more of the good things of life. God likes us to ask him for our wants also. This shows that we depend on him for everything. He delights in giving to us. Why then don't we get everything we want? (*Some things we want may not be what God thinks are best for us.*)

Why should we also pray for the wants and needs of others? (*So that they too, can see how God provides for them; so that they can share with us in God's wonderful riches; so we look beyond ourselves.*)

Application Activity: Allow kids time to record their daily needs and wants in their prayer journals. Have them also think of and record the needs and wants of others. Remind them that daily needs go beyond just food. They can pray for someone who is sick, or is in a financial crunch, or maybe there is something major wrong with someone's home.

Wrap up reminding kids of the take home point: ****Pray every day for physical needs and God will provide.***

Closing Prayer:

Have kids pray for some of the things they wrote in their prayer journals. Thank God for providing both our needs and wants. Thank him that he wants to give us every good gift and for the costly gift of Jesus. Pray for thankful hearts when tempted to complain.

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Large Group Presentation: 20-30 minutes

God Will Provide

Props needed for:

The mall

- *any props that help picture a store called Daily Food Court, such as a sign, cashier's table, or shelves*
- *presentation sized map of Prayer Walk Mall with stores labeled (from past weeks), an arrow says, "You are here" pointing to Daily Food Court (This map is just outside the "store.")*
- *shelf filled with flour tortilla bites and mini-Oreo cookies*
- *six paper plates (two of these plates will have a cutout cross or a cross-drawn with a marker in the middle of the plate)*
- *two tables for the game*
- *background music of a worship song giving thanks to God*

The Character

- *Dayton Lee Trustin (Day Lee Trustin). This character, male or female, is the store clerk. He needs and oversized nametag, chef's hat, hair net, sanitation gloves, or apron.*

Each week the Large Group Presenter will take on a different persona or character depicting who will help us on our walk through Prayer Walk Mall. The presenter for this week is Dayton Lee Trustin (Day Lee Trustin).

Preset two tables each with three plates. On each table, pile one plate full of mini Oreo cookies. Place underneath this plate the paper plate with the cross. The third plate is empty and this is where the cookies will be stacked in the following game.

Name and store introduction

Presenter:

Kids, welcome to Prayer Walk Mall where you can get a closer walk with God. Thanks for coming to my store today...Daily Food Court. I am Dayton Lee Trustin. But, most of my friends call me Day. So you can just call me Day Lee Trustin. What I can offer you today is not only good food, but you can also cash in your coupon, which is good for learning to trust God every day.

Game introduction

Point to the cookies setting on the tables and say:

Who would like some of these Oreos? Do I have any customers? What would you be willing to pay for these really good Oreos? Does anyone have any money to purchase these cookies? (Probably someone will have some money, but whatever they offer, say it is not enough.)

In that case, I guess I will just have to give it to you because I am a *good* guy. Even though I am a good guy, I am only going to give them to one team who earns them – either the girls’ team or the boys’ team.

Select a boy representative for the boys’ team and a girl representative for the girls to come up front and start the contest. Then explain the game.

This game is called the Leaning Tower of Oreo. The winners of this contest will have built the tallest tower of Oreo cookies in two minutes. The winning team will be awarded all the Oreos. These contestants will begin the game each starting the tower with an Oreo. After the first person has placed an Oreo on the tower, he/she will run and tag another team member from the audience. Then the second person will place the next cookie on the tower. Then, he/she tags a third person, and so on. This continues for two minutes.

You may not interfere with the other team in any way or you will be disqualified. If your tower falls over, go ahead and begin to rebuild it. At the end of two minutes, when I say stop, the tallest tower at that time is the winning tower.

Are you ready to begin? Drum roll please. My watch is set and the first person from each team may begin with the countdown, 5-4-3-2-1-GO!

After two minutes stop the game.

Determining winners

And the winning team is the boys! (or girls). Great job and the winners each get to share the Oreos as their prize.

Let the winning team of either all the boys or all the girls get one cookie for now.

Eat and enjoy these *delicious* cookies. The other team will be whining about not getting any cookies.

Oh, do I hear the others whining and complaining? Well, let’s see, I am sure I have something for you, too. Here we are. I have little bits of tortilla that you may have.

Pass the tortilla bites out to the losing team.

Are you still whining and complaining? That reminds me of a Bible event.

Bible event – read or tell the Bible event

Exodus 16:13-21 says,

“That evening quails came and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the dew was gone, the ground was covered with a thin layer of flakes like frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they asked each other, ‘What is this?’ because they didn’t know what it was. Moses said to them, ‘It’s the food the Lord has given you to eat. This is what the Lord has commanded: Each of you should gather as much as you can eat. Take two quarts for each person in your tent.’ So that is what the Israelites did. Some gathered more, some less. They measured it into two-quart containers. Those who had gathered more didn’t have too much. Those who had gathered less didn’t have too little. They gathered as much as they could eat. Then Moses said to them, ‘No one may keep any of it until morning.’ But some of them didn’t listen to Moses. They kept part of it until morning, and it was full of worms and smelled bad. So Moses was angry with them. Each morning they gathered as much food as they could eat. When the sun was hot, it melted away.”

Why gather daily? Trust.

The people of Israel would have starved to death if they did not have provision from God. They complained about their hunger, and God gave them exactly what they needed. But, there were some conditions they had to follow. He provided manna, but they could only gather what they needed just for that day.

For one of these Oreos, does anyone have an idea why God would have done that?

Take one suggestion and reward with an Oreo.

God wanted his people to develop daily trust in him and remember that their food always came from him.

If they tried to save any for the next day, it would spoil, get maggots and really stink. (Have any of you ever looked in the back of the

refrigerator at some food that has been sitting there for a few months? That's some nasty stuff!!) Still, some of the people didn't trust God to provide for the next day's food and they tried to save some over night. That didn't work. Again, what was God trying to teach them? That's it. God wanted them to trust him to provide for each day.

The Lord's Prayer

When Jesus teaches the Lord's Prayer he says this Luke 11:3, "*Give us our bread day by day.*" What is God trying to teach us in this prayer? For an Oreo cookie who would share with us?

Give a cookie to the person who answers.

That's it!! We need to trust him every day. The more we pray for our provisions, the more we learn to trust him every day. We are now able to see our provisions coming from God, not from a grocery store, or our parents, or from me here at the Food Court.

Praying for others

I have one more question and am willing to give another cookie. Jesus says in his prayer, "Give us our bread day by day." Who is us referring to?

Give a cookie to someone who answers.

That's right, everyone, or all those who have needs. We need to pray not just for our needs, but also for the needs of others.

To the winning team: Guys, (or girls) since we are told to also pray for the needs of others, we will become concerned about others finding their provision. As a matter of fact, winning team, if you are praying, "Give us this day our daily Oreos... I mean bread," then you should be concerned about those who don't have theirs, as well. So, let's take some of your Oreos and share them with the other team.

Share Oreos with the losing team.

Praying for wants – but no whining

I have one last question. We know we need to be pray for our daily needs, such as bread, but can we also pray for Oreos, or those special things that aren't needs, but wants?

Have those that agree raise their hands. Then ask for those who disagree to raise their hands.

The truth is God says we are to pray for our needs first and not whine when we don't get our wants. The people of Israel whined when all they ate was manna. Though God gave them quail as meat, many became sick because of their whining. But God is a generous and cares about every detail of our lives.

Cross on the plate

Philippians 4:19 says,

“My God will richly fill your every need in a glorious way through Christ Jesus.”

Go to the game tables and reveal the plate with the cross on it (underneath the cookie plate).

Through the cross of Jesus Christ, we have all of our needs and our wants met. God gave us the most precious gift, his Son Jesus, and through Jesus we can have a relationship with God forever. How will he not also provide for us the good things from this world, a lot of our wants and desires? He does this because he is a generous God.

Prayer

Dear Father in Heaven, thank you that you provide our daily needs. Help us to depend on you for our provision and to be thankful that you take care of us. Help us not to complain when we don't get exactly what we want all the time. Thank you that we can come to you with our wants also, because you loved us enough that you sent us the greatest gift ever, your Son Jesus. Because you love us so much, you also delight in giving us our desires, as well. Help us not to be selfish, but to pray for the needs and wants of others, too. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Dismiss kids to their small groups. Play background music of a worship song that gives thanks to God for all of his blessings while kids are regrouping.