

TREXO: THE ON RAMP

Session 4 - God is faithful

GOAL: Learn to live depending on our Father's faithfulness.

VERSE: Matthew 6:11

*“Pray, then, in this way:
‘Our Father who is in heaven,
Hallowed be Your name.
‘Your kingdom come.
Your will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
‘Give us this day our daily bread.
‘And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.
‘And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil.’”*

OPENING PRAYER:

(Breathe) Heavenly Father, I come to You in the name of Jesus - my Savior, the King of kings and Lord of lords, the Lion of Judah. I worship You and declare that You are God of All. I joyfully submit myself to You and Your will. I am thankful that you are faithful to Your children. You are faithful to speak and faithful to provide. Please speak to me today as I draw near to You. In Jesus' name, amen.¹

RECEIVE:

It is normal for a person to fear what life is going to be like if they live in the full obedience we have been studying. What is God going to do with my life? How am I going to provide? How does all of this work? These are legitimate questions. Thankfully, God gives us answers through His word.

All of Scripture testifies that God our Father is abundantly faithful to provide for His children. There has never been a time in history when God has not taken care of His own. Never. As you walk with Him you will learn to trust Him in deeper ways with everything in your life. You will experience His provision. At every step you will enjoy increasing confidence in your Father's hand. Here are two passages that give vivid teaching on God's faithful provision. REFLECT on them and note what you learn about our Father's faithfulness.

*Exodus 16:1-3, 14-17 Then they set out from Elim, and all the congregation of the sons of Israel came to the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after their departure from the land of Egypt. The whole congregation of the sons of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The sons of Israel said to them, “Would that we had died by the Lord's hand in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat, when we ate bread to the full; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger...”
When the layer of dew evaporated, behold, on the surface of the wilderness there was a*

¹ Release whatever needs to be released. Hopefully you are already doing this on your own. I continue to put this here to remind you in the event you forget.

fine flake-like thing, fine as the frost on the ground. When the sons 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, "It is the bread which the Lord has given you to eat. This is what the Lord has commanded, 'Gather of it every man as much as he should eat; you shall take an omer apiece according to the number of persons each of you has in his tent.'" The sons of Israel did so, and some gathered much and some little.

Matthew 6:25-34 "For this reason I say to you, do not be worried about your life, as to what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they? And who of you by being worried can add a single hour to his life? And why are you worried about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin, yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, will He not much more clothe you? You of little faith! Do not worry then, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear for clothing?' For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. "So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

God is perfectly faithful. His provision will not always come the way you expect it to come. He may provide through your labor, a brother or sister, a stranger, a bird, supernaturally, or some other unthinkable way!

Scripture teaches us that you cannot predict His method of providing but you can predict that He will provide.

God delights in providing in ways only He can.

Deuteronomy 7:9 adds some great understanding to God's faithfulness. "Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments..." This passage talks about God's covenant.

A covenant is an agreement between God and man that establishes the conditions of the relationship. When two people get married they enter into a covenant relationship. The husband and the wife agree to a new relationship based on the vows they make with each other. Similarly, our relationship with God is a covenant relationship. Unlike marriage, it is not mutual. Man does not negotiate the terms with God. God comes to man and offers him a relationship with God where God loves, leads and provides. Man's role is to love and follow. In God's covenant relationship, He promises He will be faithful to His children. Deuteronomy 7:9 is a declaration of God's faithfulness to those who keep His covenant – those who are obedient to Him.

Jesus teaches us to pray, "Give us this day our daily bread." We are to pray daily for the things we need God to provide. We get further training in this from the Apostle Paul in Philippians 4:6-8.

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Every day we learn to **RELEASE** our **specific** needs to God, trusting His faithfulness to provide for us as we obey His will. Our releasing must be specific! We are stirred up by specific things, release specific things. If you have difficulty identifying what specific issues are stirring you up, pray and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal them to you. As He reveals them put them in the faithful hands of God.

You will know when you have released something to Him because your anxiety will be replaced with His incomprehensible peace! Notice that His peace guards your heart and mind as you are in Christ Jesus. Remember that we live in a war between two kingdoms. The enemy seeks to stir up your fear and anxiety causing you to not rest in our Father's faithfulness.

Learn to continually release your needs to the Lord. As you feel anxious or fearful surrender those needs to the Lord. He is faithful!

What are things in your life today that you need God to provide?

After writing your list ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you other things in your life that you need to **RELEASE** to the Lord.

Remember that Paul says our anxiety will be replaced by the peace of God. If you are praying and have not been freed from your negativity, keep asking the Holy Spirit to show you deeper issues that you are holding on to.

Releasing is a powerful discipline that you will use throughout every day of your relationship with the Lord. Paul trains his disciples in 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, “Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” As we regularly **REFLECT** on the blessings of God we give Him thanks. Our gratitude moves us to continually **RELEASE** to Him the things we are holding in our hands. As you go throughout the day, release to Him your meetings, tasks, relationships, and other issues leading you away from the faithfulness of your Father.

RELEASING AND WAITING

One of the great challenges in releasing our needs to the Lord is waiting on His provision. No one likes to wait! Isaiah 40:31 tells us the benefits of waiting on the Lord, “Yet those who wait for the Lord will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary.” Be careful that you do not get frustrated because God has not moved when you wanted. *His timing may not be your timing but it is perfect timing.*

In what areas of your life do you know there will be a challenges to wait on the provisions of God?

What promises has God given you in these areas that you can rest in?

Over these areas and every area in your life, **RECEIVE** the words of Paul,

**And my God *will* supply *all* your needs
according to *His riches* in Christ Jesus.²**

Stand on this word and God’s promise that He will provide. Pray Jesus’ prayer daily, “Give me this day my daily bread.” Walk in His rest!

² Philippians 4:19, emphases added.

This is the end of Session 4. You are learning the power of resting your life in the faithful promises of God. Write any emotions, thoughts, or spirits you need to RESIST so that you can RESPOND to God's direction.

CLOSING PRAYER:

Heavenly Father, Your faithfulness frees me from the enemy of worry and fear. I feel their power seeking to steal my life. Thank you that I can trust You with my daily needs. Thank You that nothing is too small. As I take things back from You, stir me up so that I will quickly return them to You. Expose in me the roots of my anxieties. Search me and cleanse me that I can have greater intimacy with You and peace in me. As You move I will tell of Your stories to all people! In Jesus' name, amen.