



Jesus
PROVIDES
For Us

The
CHOSEN
Bible Study
Season 1 Study Guide



Week 1 Study Guide

This is the printable study guide for our Episode 4 theme:

Jesus Provides For Us

We hope you'll enjoy these, but we also hope that you'll comment and share on the social media posts we create about the things that you are learning from the Word of God.

In each lesson, you'll notice a "key question". Each lesson will dig into that query, providing Scripture and questions to help develop a more in-depth understanding. We encourage you to prayerfully consider how to answer that question and contemplate what impact that has on your relationship with Jesus.

Sincerely,

The Chosen Bible Study Administration Team





DAY 1: Introduction

Watch Season 1, Episode 4 of ***The Chosen***, titled “The Rock On Which It Is Built”.

While you watch, take note of two things:

1. **Jot down the instances where you see God providing.**
2. **Reflect and write down how God provides for and blesses you personally.**



DAY 2: God Blesses & Provides

KEY QUESTION:

What are blessings and provision?



DAY 2: God Blesses & Provides

God's Loving Provision

Did you know there are over 100 verses in the Bible that speak of the ways God provides for His children?

God *always* promises to provide, and God blesses His children!

Over the course of the next month, we'll explore that topic a bit more in depth.

While God does bless us with material possessions, we will see it is not predominantly what the Scripture points us to. We'll take some time to dive into the ways that God blesses us spiritually.



DAY 2: God Blesses & Provides

Think About It/Application

Let's begin with an understanding of blessing.

In Hebrew, one word for blessing is “barak” (Hebrew: בָּרָךְ), meaning “praise” or “congratulations”. This form of blessing can first be seen in **Genesis 1:22** and **Genesis 1:28**, in the Creation account. Another Hebrew word that means “bless” is “esher” (Hebrew: אֶשְׁרִי). Esher conveys actions or words that evoke happiness. This appears in **Genesis 12** where Abram is promised that God will bless him, make his name great, and bless all the families on the earth through him (**verses 1-3**).

Read Genesis 12:1-3

How do the blessings promised to Abraham relate to believers today?



DAY 2: God Blesses & Provides

Think About It/Application

Read Matthew 5 and Luke 6

With regard to the New Testament, one of the Greek words for blessing is “makarios” (Greek: μακάριος). Makarios alludes to the joy of those who find their fulfillment in God. In the Beatitudes, Jesus uses makarios when He speaks of being blessed spiritually because of being in a right relationship with the Father.

What can you learn from the Beatitudes about blessings?

According to Jesus, what does it mean to be blessed?

True joy comes from God and isn't dependent on life's circumstances. Happiness, on the other hand, often depends on the situation.

How do spiritual blessings contrast with your own view of happiness?



DAY 2: God Blesses & Provides

Think About It/Application

Read Romans 4:1-8

Right from the start of **Romans 4**, Paul connects righteousness and blessing. He stresses the fact that uprightness is not earned by doing good works, but rather is a blessing given to us by God. He cites Abraham as an example of this (**Genesis 15:6**). Further on, Paul makes reference to **Psalm 32**.

Combining these two references from the Old Testament puts a strong emphasis on the continuity of Scripture, showing that God's plan to bless humanity has always been based on faith; this was not a new idea. This righteousness that comes by faith in Jesus Christ gives us freedom—freedom from trying to earn His favor. Rather, we can now live dependently on God while responding in gratitude, worship, and service to Him. There is no greater blessing than being justified by faith through the grace of God!

How does Paul emphasize that righteousness is by faith and not works?

How can you show your gratitude to God for the gift of righteousness that comes through faith in His Son?



DAY 2: God Blesses & Provides

Think About It/Application

Read Ephesians 1:3

Eulogeo (Greek: **εὐλογέω**), meaning “good words or a good report about someone”, can also be found in the New Testament, and we see a variant of it here in Paul’s letter to the Ephesians. Paul begins by denoting that every blessing—yes, every blessing—we could even begin to imagine has been provided for us in Christ. Now, let’s remember here that our view of blessings and what Paul was speaking of may be slightly different. What the author is mentioning are blessings that are spiritual, pertinent to our relationship with God. Grace, redemption, forgiveness, wisdom, and eternal life are blessings from the Father that are only available through Jesus Christ. And it is these things that are at the crux of Paul’s description of the all-sufficient blessings found in the Lord.

Recognizing these blessings when we’re going through the storms of life may be difficult. How can you keep in mind that the blessings in Christ are of highest value?

Having “every spiritual blessing” implies a completeness. How does this give you confidence in the Lord?



DAY 2: God Blesses & Provides

Think About It/Application

Read 1 Peter 3:9

How can you repay evil with blessing in your own life? (For some examples, read **Genesis 37-50, 1 Samuel 24 and 26, 2 Kings 6:8-23, The Gospels, Acts 6-7, and Acts 16:16-34**)

What are some internal and external challenges you might run into when trying to repay evil with good?

How does the way Peter approaches blessings compare to the Sermon on The Mount?



DAY 2: God Blesses & Provides

Revisiting the Key Question:

What are blessings and provision?

Read **James 2:23, Galatians 3:6-9, Hebrews 11:8-10, and 2 Corinthians 5:19-20** for further scripture reference.



DAY 2: God Blesses & Provides

Prayer

Jehovah Jireh,

We know that our view of what it means to be blessed can be so skewed. Sometimes we're unable to see true blessings and sometimes we're unwilling. I pray that You would soften our hearts and give us eyes to see the blessings that You provide for us every day.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen



DAY 3: Grace

KEY QUESTION:

**What kinds of things do we depend
on God for?**



DAY 3: Grace

COMMON GRACE

Stop for a moment and think about the rain that falls, the sunshine that chases away the clouds, and the wind that blows on a cool fall day. These are but a minuscule reminder of the multitude of ways in which God provides for all of His creation. God causes the sun to shine and the rain to fall on everyone, good and evil alike. In theological circles, this is known as *common grace*.

“He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.”

(Matthew 5:45b)

Every human—yes, every human—is given grace by God to some degree. This common grace includes such things as provision of physical needs, intellectual gifts, morals, and the ability to enjoy things. The grace that applies to all people really emphasizes just how merciful God is toward all that He has created!



DAY 3: Grace

Think About It/Application

God's very character, His goodness, mercy, and justice, is found at the heart of grace, both common and saving grace. It restrains evil and extends goodness to all of humanity. Without common grace, any form of life would be unsustainable, nonexistent.

Unfortunately, we can so easily take these things for granted.

How can common grace, those mercies God shows to everyone, serve as a bridge for conversations about faith with non-believers?

What are some misconceptions about common grace that need to be addressed?



DAY 3: Grace

Think About It/Application

Read Psalm 145:9

What aspects of God's character are extended to everyone?

God exhibits universal goodness and compassion to all people. How can you show this same attitude when interacting with unbelievers?

How does this verse inspire gratitude?

Read Psalm 145:15-16

We are presented with the image of God's open hand. What does this say about His attitude toward giving? How does this contrast with your attitude about giving?

These verses are confirmation that God cares and provides faithfully. How can you lean on and trust God's provision?

Read Acts 14:16-17

How do these verses demonstrate God's provision for all of humanity?



DAY 3: Grace

Revisiting the Key Question:

**What kinds of things do we depend
on God for?**

Read **Matthew 6:26-33, Psalm 65:9-13,**
and **James 1:17** for further scripture
reference.



DAY 3: Grace

Prayer

Gracious Lord,

We ask that You will forgive us for taking the blessings and provisions that You give us for granted. It is so easy for us to forget that it is You who provides for us and You who sustains us. We are thankful that You generously give grace to all of humanity. Teach us how to show this grace to others that they might be drawn nearer to You.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen



DAY 4: The Lord Will Provide

KEY QUESTION:
Who is Jehovah Jireh?



DAY 4: The Lord Will Provide

The Lord Who Provides

Jehovah Jireh means “The Lord Will Provide”. This isn’t referring to cars, money, or vacations, though. To better understand, let’s take a moment to jump back to the Old Testament where this name is first seen:

“And Abraham named that place The Lord Will Provide, as it is said to this day, ‘On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided.’”

(Genesis 22:14)

In context, Abraham is faced with an immense need. (**Genesis 22**) When Abraham speaks in **verse 14**, he is relaying that God sees the need that he has and will make provision for it. It is personal between Abraham and God, and it is for us as well. If you are in Christ, you have many assurances that God’s love causes Him to be involved in every moment of your life from start to finish.

He absolutely is The Lord Who Provides.



DAY 4: The Lord Will Provide

Think About It/Application

Read Exodus 16:4 and Deuteronomy 8:3

Throughout Scripture, God shows Himself as a faithful provider. For forty years, the Israelites wandered in the desert. The conditions were harsh and food was scarce, but God, Jehovah Jireh, provided manna from heaven to sustain them. He was providing for them and showing them that He cared, but, just like us, they found something to complain about rather than be grateful for.

Ultimately, through this experience, though, they learned how to rely on God, trusting Him and His timing, rather than their own ability to acquire resources. We should learn to do the same; believe that He knows what is best and will give us what they need.

God gave manna on a daily basis. Why did He do this rather than just giving them a large supply that would last for longer? What was He teaching them?

How do God's instructions about gathering the manna test the faith and obedience of the Israelites?

What can you learn about trusting and depending on God from these verses?

We should depend on God daily to meet our needs. How do you do this?

Are there times where you are easily tempted to complain about what God has given you rather than be thankful?



DAY 4: The Lord Will Provide

Think About It/Application

Read John 6:32-35 and John 6:49-50

The manna in the desert, the bread from heaven, foreshadows the coming of Jesus Christ. So while physical needs matter, ultimately we have to depend on God and His provision. As humans, though, we have a distinct tendency to get our needs a little out of balance, focusing more on the physical and less on what we need to feed our souls. Here we see that Jesus was trying to get the attention of the people off of the physical and onto the spiritual—the life He was offering them. While in the desert, God provided manna to Israel to keep them from starving, and Jesus provides spiritual manna to save our souls for all eternity.

Jesus emphasizes that it is the Father who gives the true bread from heaven. Why does He do this?

How are you persistently seeking “the bread from heaven” in your life?

Jesus references the manna from the Israelites time in the wilderness. How does this show contrast between the temporary and the eternal?



DAY 4: The Lord Will Provide

Revisiting the Key Question:

Who is Jehovah Jireh?

Read the following passages for further scripture reference:

- 1 Kings 17:6
- Psalm 23:1
- 1 Timothy 6:17
- Matthew 6:31-33
- Philippians 4:19
- 2 Corinthians 9:8



DAY 4: The Lord Will Provide

Prayer

Bread of Life,

We are so very thankful that You are the true bread from heaven, the bread that sustains us and blesses us in every way spiritually. We ask that You would keep us on track and focused on You. May our hearts and minds be stayed on You. You are trustworthy and faithful, Lord, and we are grateful that we can depend on You.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen



DAY 5: The Greatest Gift

KEY QUESTION:

**What is the most important thing
that God provides?**



DAY 5: The Greatest Gift

Saving Grace

The most valuable thing that God has provided for us is the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the very means of our salvation and an eternity with God. This is clearly miles ahead of any other provision that we could ask of God.

In the previous lesson, common grace was examined.
This lesson is all about *saving grace*.

So, what is saving grace? *Gotquestions.org* explains saving grace as “God’s benevolence to the undeserving for their regeneration or sanctification.”
(gotquestions.org)

It is only because of the kindness and mercy of God that we are able to be reunited with Him. Our own actions gain us nothing; salvation is possible only because of the enormous love that God has for all of humanity. God desires that all would come to Him
(1 Timothy 2:4).



DAY 5: The Greatest Gift

Think About It/Application

Read Romans 3:10-12, Psalm 14:1-3, and Psalm 53:1-3

Paul, the author of Romans, talks a great deal about righteousness and its origins. He quotes from both **Psalm 14** and **Psalm 53** to reinforce that our own efforts are useless in obtaining salvation. His focus is solidly planted on the total depravity of humankind. Sin simply affects every area of our being, making it impossible for us to be righteous without Jesus. We are completely unacceptable to God on our own, and without His mercy and grace, we wouldn't even seek after Him.

What does Paul mean when he says, "There is no one righteous, not even one"?

How do you personally react to the assertion that "there is no one who seeks God"?

What practical steps can you take to rely more on God's righteousness rather than your own efforts?



DAY 5: The Greatest Gift

Think About It/Application

Read Romans 3:20-22

There is a lot of theology in these few verses that speak of Law, righteousness, and faith. There is a sharp contrast between the righteousness of God and the righteousness that comes from the Law. The righteousness of God comes in the form of a gift: Jesus Christ. When we accept Jesus Christ as our Savior, His righteousness is imputed to us by the grace of God and gives us eternal life. On the other hand, when we try to obtain righteousness via the Law, we base it on our own ability to follow the Law, doing various rituals and works which are wholly ineffective. We are unable to fully comply with the Holy Law; nobody can keep it perfectly, but it can reveal God's standards to us that we might be drawn to seeing our need for a Savior.

How does righteousness gained from the Law differ from the righteousness given to us by Jesus Christ?

You cannot “earn” righteousness. What does this say about our dependence on God for ALL things?

Righteousness is clearly not something we can earn. How can this help you feel secure in the Lord?

How does righteousness in Jesus connect to the following Scripture?

“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” (**Matthew 11:28-30**)

What are some of the pitfalls of focusing too heavily on the Law? On Grace?



DAY 5: The Greatest Gift

Think About It/Application

Read Ephesians 2:8

How does anyone come to saving faith?

Who does saving faith come through?

Read Hebrews 12:2

Where does our faith originate? And who sustains our faith?



DAY 5: The Greatest Gift

Revisiting the Key Question:

**What is the most important thing
that God provides?**

Read the following passages for
further scripture reference:

John 1:17

Romans 6:23

Romans 8:32

Galatians 2:16

Galatians 3:11

Galatians 3:24-25

Hebrews 10:1



DAY 5: The Greatest Gift

PRAYER

Blessed Saviour,

Oh how thankful we are that You have given Your very life so that we might be righteous in the eyes of the Father! We know that sometimes pride can get the best of us, and we think that we can earn righteousness or sustain righteousness on our own. Forgive us when we slip into that wrong attitude and remind us it is only by Your grace that we are saved for all of eternity.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen



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Week 2 Study Guide

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The Chosen Bible Study Administration Team





DAY 6: Wants Or Needs?

KEY QUESTION:
**Does God provide our wants,
our needs, or both?**



DAY 6: Wants Or Needs?

God's Loving Provision

When God provides for us, does he give us what we want or what we need? Certainly, God knows the difference between what we require and what we desire. The problem is, we aren't necessarily able to draw the line between the two.

Though God does delight in giving us the desires of our heart, (**Psalm 37:4**), His primary concern for us isn't that our lives are made comfortable! We'll say that again: God's fundamental concern for us is *not* that we experience comfort, rather that we *grow in faith* and are *transformed into the image of Christ*. He wants our focus to be moved toward the eternal while still existing in this world.

Let's briefly define both needs and wants before we dive any deeper.

Needs are things that are absolutely necessary for life: food, shelter, and clothing. God also considers spiritual "nutrition" a need as well, so keep that tucked away in your mind.

Wants, on the other hand, are desires we can have that may or may not be in our best interest. They are frequently driven by our own personal ambitions.

When we are able to better discern the difference between wants and needs, we can become more content, more trusting, and more grateful.



DAY 6: Wants Or Needs?

Think About It/Application

“Delight yourself in the Lord; And He will give you the desires of your heart.”

(Psalm 37:4)

The good news is that it is entirely possible for our desires and our needs to intersect. When we delight in Him, our hearts are being transformed by His Spirit, thereby bringing our desires into alignment with God's will. The reality is that God may indeed give us what we desire if it's congruent with His will for us.

Aside from the obvious, what are some desires that you have that are in alignment with the will of God?



DAY 6: Wants Or Needs?

Think About It/Application

Read Ezekiel 11:19 and Ezekiel 36:26

One of the most tremendous needs we have is shifting our focus more towards God and the things of eternal value. In our natural, unregenerate state, we are saddled with allegiance to self. But, once we become believers, God bestows on us the Holy Spirit Who changes us from the inside out, thus transforming our very nature and the way we respond to Him. We are now capable of nurturing a single-minded, undivided heart centered on the Lord.

What does God remove from us?

What does God replace this with?

Sadly, even after accepting Jesus Christ as our Saviour, we can still waffle back and forth between self and God. The values and desires of a divided heart vacillate perpetually, rendering us double-minded, unstable in all we do (**James 1:8**) *A heart that is divided isn't fully committed to anything.* Thus, there is a constant struggle that comes about in the lives of those with a breached heart; temporary pleasure is elevated and necessities are downplayed. Supremely inconsistent behaviors and a blurring of the lines between what is wanted and what is needed is the norm.

On the other hand, when we have an undivided heart that is focused wholly on the Lord, we have the capability of remaining fully engaged in what truly matters. We are also able to exert more discernment when it comes to needs and wants. When we are in the Word, we find ourselves encouraged to be single-mindedly devoted to God; discerning what we truly need, and not just what we think we need.

Explain why one of our great needs is for God to give us an undivided heart.



DAY 6: Wants Or Needs?

Think About It/Application

Read Genesis 3:1-6

Now, let's take a look at an example. Back to the Garden is where we'll go first. While in the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve had every one of their needs met. They had an abundance of food; they could eat from every single tree *but one*. They had solid relationships with each other and with God, and they knew their purpose was to tend the Garden. The temptation that came from Satan quickly turned into action by the couple, and they fell into the trap of choosing a want over a need. They had done what we so often do: exhibiting impulsivity by placing their desires above what God had commanded. This pair exemplifies what can happen when we seek immediate gratification at the expense of spiritual well-being. This narrative also underscores the importance of discernment and the wisdom of aligning our desires with God's will.

How are you tempted to be more focused on wants rather than needs?

Immediate gratification frequently takes center stage in our lives, what steps can you take to guard against this?

We've read and seen an example of what divided allegiance and a focus on wants can lead to. Let's shift now to the ultimate illustration of prioritizing the very opposite; needs over wants. The willingness of Jesus to suffer on the cross for the redemption of humanity epitomizes this.

It is known from **Matthew 26:39** that Jesus had a human desire to escape what was yet to come. *"My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will."* Jesus experienced temptation, yet remained faithfully devoted to the will of the Father, exhibiting an unwavering heart. In doing this, Jesus embodies self-sacrificial love that puts the desires of the Father above all else.

When you dwell on the cross and the sacrifice that was required, how does that help you to remain steadfast to the will of God, even when it is in conflict with what you desire?



DAY 6: Wants Or Needs?

Think About It/Application

Read Luke 22:42

What does this say about our desires in comparison to God's?

Read Romans 5:8

How do you know from this Scripture that Jesus put our needs above His own?

Read Philippians 2:5-8

What does this tell you about the role humility plays in placing needs above desires?



DAY 6: Wants Or Needs?

Revisiting the Key Question:

**Does God provide our wants,
our needs, or both?**

Read **Psalm 86:11, Jeremiah 31:33, Romans 12:2, and Hebrews 8:10** for further scripture reference.



DAY 6: Wants Or Needs?

Prayer

Father God,

We ask that You would give us a heart that is fully allied with You, helping us discern between wants and needs. Let our hearts not be divided and grant us the power to remain fully focused on what Your will for our lives is. Let us go forth in the power of the Holy Spirit to remain faithful, focused, and content in the parameters You set for us. We ask for forgiveness when we move forward in our own strength and desires. And we thank You that You give us the desires of our heart!

In Jesus' Name,

Amen



DAY 7: Teach Us To Pray

KEY QUESTION:
Should we pray for our needs?



DAY 7: Teach Us To Pray

This Is How You Should Pray

To glean some insight into this question, let's begin by reading **Matthew 6**.

When the disciples asked Jesus how to pray (**Luke 11:2-4**, The Lord's Prayer), we find that there is much to be learned about asking for our needs.

This specific prayer is found both in **Matthew 6:9-13** and **Luke 11:2-4**, and models for us how we are to approach conversing with the Father.

Beginning at **verse 5** and through **verse 8**, Jesus speaks about how we are to pray. Sincerity and humility are emphasized as crucial for a praying heart.



DAY 7: Teach Us To Pray

Think About It/Application

Read Matthew 6:25

What does Jesus specifically state that we are not to worry about?

Does not worrying mean the same thing as not praying about it?

Read Matthew 6:31-33

What does this tell us about God and our needs?

Above all else, what should we be seeking and focusing our attention on?

What is the promise that comes with this?

What are you most worried about? Physical or spiritual needs?



DAY 7: Teach Us To Pray

Revisiting the Key Question:

Should we pray for our needs?

Read **Matthew 26:42**, **2 Thessalonians 3:3**, **Isaiah 46:10**, and **Ephesians 1:9-10** for further scripture reference.



DAY 7: Teach Us To Pray

Prayer

Sweet Jesus,

We are so thankful that You are able to provide for every need that we have, both physical and spiritual. Without Your providence, we are completely lost and utterly helpless. Often we have a tendency to think we are capable of meeting our own needs. Please forgive us for pridefully thinking that we can supply what we need. Father, continue to bless us with a transformed heart and a renewed spirit.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen



DAY 8: Spiritual Provision

KEY QUESTION:
Spiritually, what kinds of things
does God provide for us?



DAY 8: Spiritual Provision

Spiritually Blessed

As we've learned, God's provision can refer to so many different things. Our day-to-day physical needs are just one part of God's provision for us. More importantly, He provides for the needs of our soul, and we're going to shift our focus now to some of the wondrous ways that God spiritually provides in abundance.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ."

(Ephesians 1:3)

Think about that: God has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in Christ. But do you know what these spiritual blessings are? Do you know what that means for us?

"The word blessing in Ephesians 1:3 is a translation of the Greek word "eulogy" and it means 'to speak well of.'"

(<https://www.gotquestions.org/spiritual-blessings.html>)

Now, if we think about this, it implies that God has said good things for our profit. We'll dig into the specifics of that in the days to come.



DAY 8: Spiritual Provision

Think About It/Application

The three most essential spiritual blessings that the Lord provides for us are redemption, adoption, and inheritance.

So what does it mean that we have been redeemed? There's a good bit packed into this concept of redemption. At its basic level, redemption is the price paid by Jesus Christ for our way out of eternal condemnation. We are no longer slaves to sin, but to righteousness (**Romans 6:6**).

Read 1 Peter 1:18-19

The redemption we have is gained only through the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ; no amount of wealth or human works can ever secure eternal salvation. The emphasis seen in **1 Peter 1** stresses this, highlighting the futility of life apart from God and relaying the enormity of our freedom from our former empty way of living. Jesus Christ bought our freedom with His blood. He paid our ransom. That is true redemption in the highest form!

Our redemption came at a great cost. How does that help you understand spiritual blessings and, in turn, make you exhibit gratitude for those?

Though we've been redeemed at such a great cost, we still have a tendency to hold fast to those things that are "perishable" for security. What are you still clinging to that will perish?

How can you begin to let go of those things?

How does your life show the world how grateful you are for the enormous price paid for your freedom?



DAY 8: Spiritual Provision

Think About It/Application

Read Ephesians 1:5

Adoption. What do you think of when you hear that word? In a general sense, of course, we understand that it could mean that a child becomes a legal member of a family other than that which they were birthed into. It is both legal and practical. A child is brought into a new family, and the parental rights of the birth parents are terminated. The adoptive parents then create a loving, stable environment for the child, treating them as if they have always been a part of the family.

Shift now to the spiritual adoption that we are blessed to be given. We are adopted as children of God! What a great and magnificent blessing that is. Not only have we been redeemed and considered blameless, believers have been adopted by Him and gain all of the benefits that come along with being a part of His family. Let that sink in.

What benefits do you receive as a result of being adopted by God the Father?

How does this change the way you see yourself?

You have been adopted into the family of God, what changes have taken place because of that?

What responsibilities do you now have as a child of the Most High God?



DAY 8: Spiritual Provision

Think About It/Application

Read Ephesians 1:11

Finally, we'll look at inheritance and what that means for believers.

When we think of inheritance, we typically think of some kind of material transfer of goods from someone who has passed away to someone still living.

As a Christian, though, this has a much deeper meaning. Our inheritance comes strictly because of our connection to Christ through his sacrifice, death, and resurrection. Through Him, we have spiritual blessings, promises, and, yes, even gifts that are given to us from the Father. We have actually become co-heirs with Christ (**Romans 8:17**) and get to share in Divine favor and spiritual riches. Do you understand that we are promised the same eternal rewards that Jesus is?! Truly, this is an unfathomable blessing.

Have you ever really pondered what it means to be a co-heir with Christ? What kind of blessings does that bring to mind?

When you are facing particularly difficult times, how can knowing that you are a co-heir of Christ give you hope?



DAY 8: Spiritual Provision

Revisiting the Key Question:

Spiritually, what kinds of things does God provide for us?

Read the following Scriptures for further scripture reference:

John 1:12-15

John 6:37

Romans 5:17-19

1 Corinthians 2:9

Ephesians 1:7

Galatians 3:13

Colossians 1:13-14

Colossians 1:21-22

1 John 1:9



DAY 8: Spiritual Provision

Prayer

Abba Father,

We ask for forgiveness for looking for security in perishable, worldly things. When we do this, we acknowledge that we have forgotten that we have been adopted into Your family and are now co-heirs with Christ! Help us to remember that we now have Divine favor and spiritual riches that far outweigh anything we could provide. We are grateful to You, Jesus, that You paid the price for our redemption and adoption into the Kingdom.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen



DAY 9: His Will

KEY QUESTION:
**What does it mean to know the
mystery of His will?**



DAY 9: His Will

Not My Will, But Yours

There are a multitude of spiritual blessings that the Father bestows on us. Thus far, the focus has been on those primarily associated with our salvation. From

here on, we'll move to those things that are in addition to or complementary to salvation. Knowing the mystery of His will (**Ephesians 1:8-10**), receiving divine guidance, and experiencing enjoyment are the avenues of grace that we'll delve into today.

Knowing the mystery of His will allows us to gain immense spiritual insight and understanding through Christ. As we are transformed into His image, we gain

more and more discernment regarding God's purpose for our lives. When we think of guidance, it isn't merely about personal choices, but more about letting the Holy Spirit lead us in righteousness. Experiencing joy unspeakable and the joy of the Lord becomes our strength when we find contentment in His will.



DAY 9: His Will

Think About It/Application

When we think about a mystery, often we realize that this involves something that is difficult to understand or explain, even involving the unraveling of secrets. The book of Ephesians speaks of the mystery of God's will, but unlike a mystery we have to solve, God has revealed the secrets of the mystery to us. In His abundant grace, God has lavished on us wisdom to see the realities of spiritual matters.

This mystery that God reveals is His plan for redemption through Jesus Christ. Though the mystery spoken of had not been revealed for many ages, there are references sprinkled all throughout the Old Testament, pointing us to Jesus. The plan was always there, albeit veiled to some degree. Thankfully it has now been revealed, and we have been invited to be partakers in the Kingdom! Through the Gospel, the core of the mystery is seen, and Gentiles are now included as heirs of the Kingdom. Christ has brought together Jew and Gentile to form one body under His reign; nobody is left out. Salvation is available to everyone through Jesus Christ.



DAY 9: His Will

Think About It/Application

Read Ephesians 1:8-10

How does your idea of what a mystery is compare to what God speaks about being a mystery?

How has God made this mystery known to you?

Read Ephesians 3:3-5 and Ephesians 3:9-11

How does the revelation that comes from God differ from our own wisdom or understanding?

Explain the relationship between the church, Jesus, and heavenly realms.

How does the church reveal God's wisdom?



DAY 9: His Will

Think About It/Application

Read Acts 1:5 and John 14:26

Before ascension, Jesus promised One who would guide and teach us.. The Holy Spirit is that One. With the Spirit of God, we are empowered and transformed, able to have a humble heart and a willingness to listen. As such, we are now able to seek and discern God's will and receive guidance from the Lord with commitment.

In fact, one of the key functions of the Holy Spirit is to guide believers. He does this in a variety of ways, of course. One way is through enabling us to understand and apply Scripture. Convicting and correcting us, the Spirit will also guide us away from things that are not lining up with the will of God. He will give us wisdom and discernment that encourages us to make decisions that honor God, while reassuring us of His guidance. Obviously, the Spirit of God is faithful in leading us, and for that we can thank Him for this precious blessing.

How does the promise of the Holy Spirit encourage you that you will not lack the guidance of the Father?

How does the Holy Spirit guide believers?

How can you tell the difference between the guidance of the Holy Spirit and your own thoughts or desires?



DAY 9: His Will

Think About It/Application

And finally, we will speak briefly about how God blesses us with the ability to enjoy life. The blessing of joy that God provides for His people can be seen throughout Scripture, showing us that we can truly find delight in Him.

Read Psalm 16:11

How can you still have joy even if your circumstances are less than enjoyable?

How can you turn your focus away from worldly pleasures and joy and toward the Lord?

How is contentment now linked to the promise of “eternal pleasures”?

Read John 15:10-11

How does obedience to Jesus lead to joy?

What is the relationship between love, obedience, and joy?

How can you show that the joy of the Lord is in you?

Read 1 Timothy 6:17

How do you enjoy the blessings that God gives you without becoming too attached to them?



DAY 9: His Will

Revisiting the Key Question:

What does it mean to know the mystery of His will?

Read the following passages for further scripture reference:

1 Corinthians 2:7

1 Timothy 3:16

Colossians 1:26-27

Romans 16:25-26

Romans 15:13

James 1:17

Psalm 118:24

Isaiah 55:12



DAY 9: His Will

Prayer

Giver of Good Things,

We are thankful that You have revealed Jesus to us and given us the Holy Spirit to guide and lead us. We ask that when we are hesitant to follow because of uncertainties that we would trust Your leadership and guidance; knowing that You are always with us.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen



DAY 10: Eternity And More

KEY QUESTION:
How does God provide for us
eternally?



DAY 10: Eternity And More

Home Awaits

Hebrews 11 is known as the “Hall of Faith” and gives us some perspective on the provision God gives us. Some of those mentioned were victorious in this earthly life, while others lost their physical life. Either way, both groups were acknowledged as having great faith.

The hard part of all of this is that God doesn’t always provide in the way that we think He will. We have a tendency to get in a very earth-bound frame of mind, thinking that God’s provision means physical safety here on earth. This can be true, but isn’t necessarily true, nor should we think of it as the standard. As seen throughout history, many have given their life for the sake of The Gospel.

During times when God seems far off, almost as if He has forgotten to provide for our needs, it can be harder to remember than God always provides. Even in the cases where physical safety is compromised, God hasn’t forgotten about you. This is where eternal provision comes forward and is perfect and complete. When healing doesn’t come here, eternal healing comes. Let’s face it, hearts get broken here and the pressures of life can get to even the best of us, but this serves to remind us that we are made for Kingdom life and we’re only sojourners here.



DAY 10: Eternity And More

Think About It/Application

If you haven't realized it yet, our greatest need is for more of God. Thankfully, He is more than happy to commune with us. When we pursue Him and seek after Him, we see God faithfully providing by revealing more of Himself. And we gain a deep, fulfilling relationship with the Creator of the Universe.

Read James 4:8

So what exactly does it mean to "draw near to God"? When we want to draw near to God, we are very purposefully building a relationship with Him. But how? Imagine being in a relationship with someone you hardly ever speak to and really don't know very well. How would you go about getting to know them better? You'd spend more time with them. And so it is with God, whether through reading His Word, worship or prayer, spending time with Him is crucial! Essentially, coming near to God is about growing in a deeper relationship with Him.

What does it mean to "come near to God"?

What obstacles get in the way of drawing near to God?

When you draw near to God, what does God promise?

Are there changes that you can make to come closer to God? What are those changes?



DAY 10: Eternity And More

Think About It/Application

READ: Jeremiah 29:13

When we seek God with all our heart, we are totally committed and sincere. On the other hand, half-heartedly seeking after God looks very different. So let's take a moment to compare the two.

Commitment:

When we are fully committed to the Lord, our allegiance is undivided, and He is our top priority. Compare this to a half-hearted allegiance to God. God becomes a matter of convenience, and we show ourselves to be committed only when we feel like it.

Sincerity:

Genuinely seeking God is truly a sincere desire to be closer to Him and to know His will. It's not superficial or ritual-based like half-hearted attempts. When we lack a genuine interest in knowing God more deeply, we find ourselves lackluster in the Lord.

Consistency:

Are you devoted to reading His Word and speaking with Him in prayer? This is an indication that your heart is fully devoted to seeking the Lord. Lacking discipline, no regularity, or even a negligible desire to do these things might indicate a lukewarm interest in Jesus.

Purpose:

When our actions and decisions are led by the Spirit with a desire to live in obedience to God, you can be certain this is pleasing to Him. But, when we are motivated by selfish ambitions and what we can get from God rather than really wanting to know Him, this will only serve to further our kingdom, not His.

In what ways are you seeking God whole-heartedly? What areas are you showing a lesser commitment?

Do you feel confident that you are seeking God with all your heart?



DAY 10: Eternity And More

Revisiting the Key Question:

How does God provide for us eternally?

Read the following passages for further scripture reference:

Psalm 73:28

Zechariah 1:3

Deuteronomy 4:29

2 Chronicles 15:2

Psalm 119:2

Acts 17:27

Hebrews 11:6



DAY 10: Eternity And More

PRAYER

Eternal King,

We know that there can be obstacles in our relationship with You. We pray that You will open our eyes to see those things in our lives. Let us approach our relationship with You in total commitment and sincerity, seeking after You whole-heartedly. Thank You for Your faithful commitment to us even when we are only half-heartedly following after You.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen



Jesus
PROVIDES
For Us

The
CHOSEN
Bible Study
Season 1 Study Guide



Week 3 Study Guide

This is the printable study guide for our Episode 4 theme:

Jesus Provides For Us

We hope you'll enjoy these, but we also hope that you'll comment and share on the social media posts we create about the things that you are learning from the Word of God.

In each lesson, you'll notice a "key question". Each lesson will dig into that query, providing Scripture and questions to help develop a more in-depth understanding. We encourage you to prayerfully consider how to answer that question and contemplate what impact that has on your relationship with Jesus.

Sincerely,

The Chosen Bible Study Administration Team





DAY 11: Unusual Provision

KEY QUESTION:
**Does God provide in the way we
would expect?**



DAY 11: Unusual Provision

Unfathomable Provision

Last week, we touched briefly on the fact that God's provision is often very different than what we anticipate. When we have a certain expectation in mind of how God will respond to our needs, we can be in a sticky place. What if God doesn't provide for us in the manner that we have envisioned? We might become depressed, think that God has forgotten us, or—worse yet—start thinking that God is unfaithful in upholding His promises.

This just isn't true! God isn't restrained like we are, so He has numerous ways of providing. He might respond in supernatural ways, like providing water from a rock or manna from heaven (**Exodus 17:5-6, Deuteronomy 8:3**). Or He could use ordinary folks to be our means of provision, such as when Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt (**Exodus 12:50-51**). What it boils down to is that we need to expect the unexpected, and remember that His ways and thoughts are higher than our own (**Isaiah 55:8-9**).



DAY 11: Unusual Provision

Think About It/Application

So now let's dig into some biblical examples of how God has provided for people in ways different than they imagined. The passages we'll examine will show us how His way of providing actually reveals the wisdom, creativity, and faithfulness of God.

Read 1 Kings 17:1-16

Here our story is about the physical needs of Elijah the prophet being met in the midst of a drought. God had told him to go to Zarephath, a largely Gentile city, where a widow would provide for him. Imagine his surprise when he arrived and this widow's words were basically "I have enough for one loaf. I'm going to make that, eat it, and then we're done for." **(1 Kings 17:12)**

However, the very next verses explain how Elijah responded to her. Indeed, she was to go and make her loaf of bread, and, yes, she was absolutely to share with Elijah, but.... then he boldly tells her that God has promised that the flour and oil will not run out until the drought has ended **(1 Kings 17:13-14)**. God held true to His Word just as He always does and miraculously provided for Elijah, the widow, and her son through the jar of flour and jug of oil that did not run dry until the rains came.

There are some key takeaways from this situation if we explore just a bit. Elijah has full confidence that God will provide, after all he was recently just fed by ravens! For us, we should never forget that when God makes a promise, *it is trustworthy*. Since God is not limited by human resources, we can also learn that when He provides it may come in a way that doesn't seem natural to us. Elijah encouraged the widow to trust what God had said, as clearly she was preparing to die. Similarly, we should be determined to trust God's promises even when we can't see the outcome.

God tells Elijah to go to this person, a widow, as a means of meeting his needs. Is this surprising to you? How does this challenge your ideas regarding who God uses to meet our needs?

How does this situation affect your perspective on generosity, when you are the one with "nothing to give"?

What can you learn about the nature of God's provision from 1 Kings 17?

Do you see any links between obedience and provision?

How does this event give you hope that God will provide, even when the situation seems bleak or impossible?



DAY 11: Unusual Provision

Think About It/Application

Read John 6:1-4

At the Feeding of The Five Thousand, we see Jesus providing enough food—with leftovers—from only a few loaves of bread and two fish. There are lessons similar to those we read about in **1 Kings 17** in this story.

For instance, the young boy leads the way in generosity; he willingly offers his lunch! So, once again, like the widow of Zarapheth, he was operating out of scarcity, not abundance, but it didn't impede his willingness to share. Yes, the boy's offering was small when compared to the need, but this just shows us that God can work in big ways with even the smallest things. He takes our very limited resources and can multiply them to go above and beyond what we can imagine!

Philip responds from a very human perspective regarding provision. His focus appears to be more on what little they have rather than on the power of God. When you are in seasons of scarcity, is your response more like Philip's or like the little boy's?

How can you shift from being focused on what you don't have to allowing God to use what you do have?



DAY 11: Unusual Provision

Think About It/Application

Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

What did God provide for Paul that he desperately needed?

How do you see current challenges? As a thorn in the flesh or as a way that God provides for your growth?

Paul prayed 3 times for the thorn to be removed. What does that tell us about how our human desires can sometimes get in the way of what God desires to provide?

In the end, Paul accepted the thorn and the weakness that was associated with it. What can you learn from Paul about being content in what God provides?



DAY 11: Unusual Provision

Revisiting the Key Question:

Does God provide in the way we would expect?

Read the following Scriptures for further scripture reference:

Genesis 22:1-14

Exodus 16:4-5, 13-15

Psalm 78:23-25

Philippians 4:19

2 Kings 4:42-44

Psalm 34:19

Romans 8:26

1 Peter 5:10



DAY 11: Unusual Provision

Prayer

Good Father,

We know that Your ways are higher than ours and so we can't even begin to comprehend how You work. We ask that You strengthen our hearts to trust that

You will be faithful even when we can't see the outcome. And remind us to be generous and willing to share what we have that You may use it how You see fit. Forgive us when we worry about provision as we know that cannot change anything; help us to trust in You in those times.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen



DAY 12: Challenging Provision

KEY QUESTION:

**How does God challenge what we
see as provision?**



DAY 12: Challenging Provision

This Isn't Easy to Accept

Once you become a Christian, God Himself promises to protect, provide, and care for you **ALWAYS!**

It can be hard for us to see that God is providing when it's happening in a way that's different than we're anticipating. Frustrating is what that can be. But remember, you're certainly not alone in this! Multiple times, the disciples missed what Jesus was doing in their lives, and He was physically right there in front of them.

The thing with provision is that it may not be in the way that we expect or hope for. What about those times when God is absolutely giving us what we need, but it's in a way that is hard to understand and endure? It can definitely make us weary, but, on the positive side, our faith and trust have tremendous opportunity to grow.

Since clearly God can provide for us in ways that can sometimes be very difficult to understand, let's take a peek at some of those and what might be gained spiritually. Keep in mind that the provision we're going to gaze into might make you a little uncomfortable.



DAY 12: Challenging Provision

Think About It/Application

Read Hebrews 12:5-11

God provides for us through His discipline. Yes, you read that right! Discipline from God is a way in which He provides for our needs. This way may seem painful and even unkind to us, but rest assured, God never disciplines out of meanness or spite! This method is intended to spark growth and promote righteousness. It ultimately shows just how much He cares for us.

This is absolutely a challenge for us as we can lean more toward viewing this as punishment rather than discipline. Try to remember, though, that punishment is often tied to payback; its focus is on the past. But discipline looks forward, it is focused on correcting and training in righteousness.

When situations are difficult for you, do you see them as discipline or punishment?

How can you remember that discipline is a way in which God provides for us spiritually?

How can you shift away from seeing the discipline of God as punishment to an act of love?



DAY 12: Challenging Provision

Think About It/Application

Read Philippians 4:11-13

Another difficult and profound provision from God is learning contentment and strength at all times. Paul had been through the wringer and had learned to be content. Did you catch that? He had to learn how to be content and embrace every situation. We feel pretty certain that if Paul had to learn that, we will too.

The problem isn't a matter of prosperity or poverty; both can be equally difficult. When we're living abundantly, we can slide into thinking that we're the ones meeting our own needs. On the flip side, living in constant scarcity can make us feel as though God has abandoned us. In either case, we're definitely teetering on unbelief and need to learn how to be content in every situation; we need to see this as a provision from God that leads us into deeper trust.

Reread Verse 13. What is the secret of contentment?

Being content in every circumstance is difficult at best. How can these verses help us work through the times when we feel like God is not providing for us?

How does this change your view of what comes under the umbrella of "provision from God"?



DAY 12: Challenging Provision

Think About It/Application

Read James 1:2-4

We can read some valuable insights about trials and provision here in James. So, last but not least, as James points out, God may provide trials for us as a means of teaching us endurance and maturity in faith. If we're in the midst of trials and relying on Him, you can be sure that spiritual growth is happening.

One thing of note is that we are told to see our trials as a chance to experience joy. What? Joy... in trials? This definitely rubs in opposition to our sin nature that views trials as an unmitigated negative experience. But, if we shift our thinking and rely on the Holy Spirit to lead us, we will begin to recognize that trials are a tool used by God and an opportunity for our own spiritual development.

How do you feel about the gift of joy coming in the form of a trial?

How can you learn to see trials as a chance to grow rather than see them as an obstacle to overcome?

How have you seen growth in your own life through the trials you have endured?

What do these verses lead us to believe about the purpose of spiritual provision in our lives?

What practical advice would you give yourself—or others—regarding the acceptance of trials as a means of God's provision?



DAY 12: Challenging Provision

Revisiting the Key Question:

How does God challenge what we see as provision?

Read the following Scriptures for further scripture reference:

Genesis 22:1-14

Exodus 16:4-5, 13-15

Psalm 78:23-25

Philippians 4:19

2 Kings 4:42-44

Psalm 34:19

Romans 8:26

1 Peter 5:10



DAY 12: Challenging Provision

Prayer

Precious Redeemer,

We know that sometimes the way You provide can be very challenging for us and we can grow weary. Forgive us when we fight against You and don't want to receive the good blessings that You are giving us. Help us to receive discipline as a means of training, and let us see trials as an experience that can lead us to joyful endurance.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen



DAY 13: Harmful Provision?

KEY QUESTION:

**Would God give use something that
might harm us?**



DAY 13: Harmful Provision?

Providing A Test

God would never, ever give us something that He knows would harm us! He would, however, give us various tests that have the potential to cause us to grow in the faith. These trials are not random or willy-nilly attempts at refining us; rather their intention is for us to grow in our relationship with Him.

The need for refining and testing comes into play in order that our faith and character might become stronger. During these times, God wants us to choose faith and develop Christ-like attitudes and behaviors. One benefit is that as we trust Him more fully, He develops in us Christ-likeness so that we become salt and light for the rest of the world.

Though this testing can seem like it might harm us, God's promise is that He will work all things together for our good (**Romans 8:8-9**). Alongside this there are many examples in the Word of positive results from being tested.



DAY 13: Harmful Provision?

Think About It/Application

Read Isaiah 48:10

Isaiah wrote this book during a time that was *very volatile*. Politics were unstable, and moral decline was abounding. Sound familiar?

Isaiah is the spokesman for God at this point in history and, on God's behalf, reminds the Israelites of His faithfulness despite their own unfaithfulness. And, he is calling them to repentance!

Isaiah speaks about the refinement of silver here. When silver is refined, metal is heated to remove the impurities. But in this case, God says that He is refining them, but "not as silver". We can imagine that it is a somewhat similar process of refinement; however, this would not be a physical purity but a spiritual transformation through trials, suffering, and hardships. Keep in mind, these afflictions were not meant to harm them, but ultimately to purify and strengthen them.

The key to this is to remember that God uses difficult times, not to punish, but to purify His people. Much like the furnace cleanses the impurities from silver, the adversities of life can purge sinfulness from our lives.

How have you seen God refine you?

Do you find yourself resisting the process of refinement or embracing it? If need be, what can you do to make the shift from resistance to acceptance?



DAY 13: Harmful Provision?

Think About It/Application

Read Deuteronomy 8:1-10

In **Deuteronomy 8**, we see a couple of reasons that God tested His people. He was testing them so they could see what was in their hearts. Additionally, he wanted them to grasp that they were to be feasting on His very words and not just physical food. Jesus reinforced that later in His confrontation with the devil (**Matthew 4:4**). Finally, God wanted them to know that they were being disciplined as a father disciplines a son, out of love and concern. This wasn't meant to harm them, but to build their reliance on Him.

At this specific point in Deuteronomy, the Israelites are on the edge of their wilderness experience, almost ready for a new beginning. Though the journey was long and arduous, God's care was still evident; He provided them with manna and water from a rock. He was teaching them to depend on Him and not on themselves, but He was also preparing them to enter into the Promised Land. Though their situation was extremely difficult, His intention was for their good and His glory. It is the same for us today!

As believers in modern culture, we can still have full assurance that God's intentions are always good for His people, even when we lack understanding. We can look to the stories from His Word and our own lives to remember His faithfulness. When we learn to rely on the strength that comes from Him, truly we can say, "I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength." (**Philippians 4:13**)

Why did the Lord test the Israelites?

How do you think testing shows the true condition of your heart?

How might God be using trials in your life to humble and/or test you?

How does reading Deuteronomy 8 encourage you to trust during times of testing?



DAY 13: Harmful Provision?

Think About It/Application

Read 1 Peter 1:3-9

We read in the Old Testament about the refining of believers, and here Peter visits this theme again. Peter makes the comparison between the testing of faith to that of refining gold, thereby, once again showing that faith is purified through trials.

Suffering isn't meaningless, and, for the believer, it isn't forever. Suffering is a means God uses to root out things that have no place in the hearts of His people. It is a pathway, so to speak, to a more profound love of Jesus Christ. As we go through tribulations, our loyalty and reliance on Him can be severely compromised or completely strengthened.

1 Peter teaches us that suffering and faith are closely connected, and that suffering is not in opposition to faith, but is an avenue used by God to test, refine, and prove genuine our faith. Obviously, we want to be strengthened, but going through the "trial by fire" doesn't sound so appealing on most days. When we are in the midst of testing, our hope should be fully focused on the Lord, bearing in mind that there is a Divine purpose behind the suffering.

What is the purpose of trials in our lives according to 1 Peter?

In what ways can trials test and refine your faith?

What have you learned about the relationship between suffering and faith?

Peter points out the temporary state of trials. Why is this important to remember?



DAY 13: Harmful Provision?

Revisiting the Key Question:

Would God give us something that might harm us?

Read the following Scriptures for further scripture reference:

Zechariah 13:9

Job 23:10

Proverbs 17:3

Psalm 66:10-12

Matthew 4:1-4

Romans 5:3-5

James 1:2-4

James 1:12

Hebrews 12:5-11



DAY 13: Harmful Provision?

Prayer

Loving Father,

We know that You use trials to refine and purify us.

This testing is so hard for us, and we need the strength of the Holy Spirit to endure. We are thankful that You are a generous giver and provide us with the Spirit. Help us to learn dependence and reliance on You during these times, and may we always choose faith in You!

In Jesus' Name,

Amen

Jesus
PROVIDES
For Us

DAY 14: Abundance

KEY QUESTION:
What is abundant life?



DAY 14: Abundance

Abundant and Limitless

God's very nature reveals that He is generous and goes beyond our wildest imaginations in providing for His children. Both the Old and New Testaments are replete with accounts of God's provision. Even when times are uncertain and resources are scarce, God perpetually demonstrates His faithfulness and care for His people.

Furthermore, Jesus emphasizes this very thing in His own teachings, assuring us that the Father knows our needs and will provide. He promises abundant life that can be found only in Him.

But, what's even better is that God's resources are unlimited—greater than we can imagine! No matter whether physical or spiritual, God will always provide for us. His provision is sufficient!



DAY 14: Abundance

Think About It/Application

Read John 10:7-10

Jesus has promised abundant life to His followers, but what does that mean? Abundant life is more than just merely existing. It is a life that is full and overflowing with blessings. Blessings such as joy, peace, and purpose are provided by the Lord. This isn't about materialistic living, but spiritual fulfillment. And Jesus is the only way we can experience spiritual safety and nourishment. It is He who fills our deepest needs and desires.

The abundant life is for both now and all of eternity. While we're here we are offered spiritual riches and the power to honor and glorify God. Eternally, we get to experience a pure, unbroken relationship with God. We will have total restoration, and the promises of God will be fulfilled. Abundant life isn't just for temporary earthly needs, but encompasses so much more for all of eternity!

What is Jesus giving his followers in abundance?

In your life, what are you seeing of the promise of “abundant life”?

What aspect of “abundant life” are you looking forward to for all of eternity?



DAY 14: Abundance

Think About It/Application

Read Philippians 4:19

While this promises that God will meet all of our needs, this can also lend itself to misinterpretation. We can fall under the idea that God somehow guarantees we will have material wealth and physical health while here on earth. This just isn't true and can lead to confusion when we're faced with illnesses or financial instability.

Thinking that God should provide immediately and upon demand is another falsehood that can come about because of misunderstanding this verse. The trouble here is that when God doesn't instantly respond, we can start to doubt God's promises or, worse yet, His faithfulness.

Finally, because we're humans with a sinful nature, we have a tendency to over-focus on material provisions at the cost of the spiritual needs we have. We have to remember that the way in which God provides can simply include strength and grace rather than temporal needs. God provides generously, no doubt about it. He has infinite resources. Yet while this assures us of God's overarching care, it is vital to comprehend the promise of abundance within the spiritual realm. A balanced approach leads us to understand that God's promises are for every aspect of our lives and are given based on His knowledge and timing.

What does "God will supply every one of your needs" mean?

How can you recognize and depend on the provision of God in everyday situations?

What would be helpful to remember when you experience delays or unmet expectations?

What misunderstandings can arise from Philippians 4:19?

God assures us of His provision. How should this change your approach to generosity and helping others?



DAY 14: Abundance

Revisiting the Key Question:

What is abundant life?

Read the following passages for further scripture reference:

Psalm 23:1-4
2 Corinthians 9:8
John 6:35
Matthew 6:31-33
Ephesians 3:16



DAY 14: Abundance

Prayer

Abundant Giver,

We know that You know our needs, yet we still have a tendency to worry. You have promised us all of eternity when we are in Jesus. And we know that You are faithful. Please forgive us when we are impatient and expecting results immediately that are in alignment with our desires and not yours. We thank You for being a generous and abundant provider.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen



DAY 15: Instrument of Provision

KEY QUESTION:

**How can we be used to provide for
others?**



DAY 15: Instrument of Provision

Filled to Overflowing

Because God provides so generously for us, we also ought to be charitable. We get to participate in the work of God and help to meet the needs of others. We have the opportunity to put our faith into action.

Over the past three weeks we have seen that God is an abundant provider, overflowing in generosity. Because we are followers of Christ, we are called to emulate this goodness by sharing with those in need. When we do this, we are sharing in God's mission of caring, and *the world gets to see His love through our actions.*

Recognizing that everything we have, our resources and abilities, all come from God shows humility. We are acknowledging that we are but stewards, and our duty is to use our gifts for the benefit of others and the glory of God.

Whether you realize it or not, your actions are a witness to God that speak volumes about what it means to be a child of God. Providing for others displays His compassion and mercy.



DAY 15: Instrument of Provision

Think About It/Application

We're going to take a look at one last section of Scripture before closing our study on "Jesus Provides for Us".

Read Matthew 25:35-40

Here Jesus speaks about how serving others correlates to serving Him. Feeding the hungry, giving something to drink to the thirsty, welcoming strangers, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and those in prison are examples of compassion Jesus uses to make His point. He encourages believers to show up in acts of service to those in genuine need, as a means of showing their faith, and the mercy and love of God.

How does this impact, challenge, or change your perspective on abundantly providing for others?

What are some things that might hinder you from serving and providing for those in need?

How can you overcome those hindrances?



DAY 15: Instrument of Provision

Revisiting the Key Question:

How can we be used to provide for others?

Read the following passages for further scripture reference:

Matthew 5:16

2 Corinthians 8:12-14

Proverbs 19:17

1 Timothy 6:18-19

Hebrews 13:16

1 John 3:17

Acts 20:35



DAY 15: Instrument of Provision

PRAYER

Good Shepherd,

You are a generous God, and we are blessed to be Your child. Enable us to show this generosity to the world. Let us feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, and clothe the naked. Jesus, please forgive us when we are stingy and don't have faith to give out of our scarcity. With Your strength, allow us to overcome this attitude of unbelief.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen