

2010 Lenten Series: "Teach Us to Pray That We May Not Be Tempted"—Lord of Life, Westfield, IN – 3/17/10

Title: "Your Will Be Done"

Text: **John 19:28-30:** ²⁸Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." ²⁹A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. ³⁰When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Intro: Video clip – Daily Bread – *What do we need to rely on God for?*

"What do we need to rely on God for?" – Nothing, if you have no need of a Savior

- Self-sufficiency comes from self-righteousness
- 1. *You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see. Revelation 3:17-18*
- 2. **Illus.: From little on our sinful nature learns to say, "I Do It!"**
 - When we see Jesus in abject need upon the cross, we realize what sin does (sucks us dry) even in midst of plenty
 - 1. When our lives are contrasted to the poverty of the world, we are shaken up to realize that our needs are not health care or retirements or guaranteed education or a host of other middle class creature comforts/ "rights"/demands
 - a. *For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich. 2 Corinthians 8:9*
 - 2. When our lives are contrasted to the eternal poverty Jesus endured on the cross, we realize the greatest need we have is not bread but the bread of life; our greatest thirst is not for water but Water of life
 - a. *Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty. John 6:35*

"What do we need to rely on God?" – Everything, because Jesus is our Savior

- Jesus becomes our guarantee that nothing can separate us from the Father's love and provision for our life
- 1. *God didn't spare his own Son but handed him over to death for all of us. So he will also give us everything along with him. Romans 8:32*
- 2. **Illus.: God gives to our need before we ask**
 - Empowering us to conquer our worry over "stuff of life" and to be focused on the true life which we have been given
 - 1. *Jesus said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." Luke 12:15*
 - 2. Our prayers will become more focused on advancing God's kingdom (*Thy Kingdom come*) in our life and in others
 - a. Jesus, "**knowing all things were completed**", could rest and turn over his life to the Father
 - b. In Jesus' life/death confident and almost matter-a-fact about God taking care of needs of my life, moves us to turn the matters and direction and outcomes of our life over to Him
 - 3. Not so quick to manipulate others to get things and freed up to truly care for them
 - a. *But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Matthew 6:33*

God gives to our need before we ask

The bank sent me an overdraft notice on the checking account of one of my daughters. I encourage my college-age girls to monitor their accounts. Even so, they sometimes overspend. What should I do? Send her an angry letter? Admonition might help her later, but it won't satisfy the bank. Phone and tell her to make a deposit? Might as well tell a fish to fly. I know her liquidity. Zero. Transfer the money from my account to hers? Seemed to be the best option. After all, I had \$25.37. I could replenish her account and pay the overdraft fee as well. Since she calls me Dad, I did what dads do. I covered my daughter's mistake. When I told her she was overdrawn, she said she was sorry. Still, she offered no deposit. She was broke. She had one option, "Dad, could you..." "Honey," I interrupted, "I already have." I met her need before she knew she had one. Long before you knew you needed grace, your Father did the same. He made an ample deposit. Before you knew you needed a Savior, you had one. And when you ask him for mercy, he answers, "Dear child. I've already given it." **Max Lucado, Cure for the Common Life (Thomas Nelson, 2008), pp. 69-70**