

"Therefore take no thought, saying, 'What shall we eat?' Or, 'What shall we drink?' Or, 'Wherewithal shall we be clothed?'" (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." Matthew 6:31-34 KJV



What consumes our days? Why do we work? The scripture says we should work for our food, but should it occupy the bulk of our time? We are also told, "Pray without ceasing." And to "meditate day and night" in God's Word. How do you balance that? Do you ever stop thinking? Then you need never stop meditating and praying. Do you carry on a conversation with a co-worker while working? Is a conversation with God any different? We go to bed tired and get up tired, and for what? The apostle said "labour not for the meat that perisheth." That seems to be in contradiction to, "if any would not work, neither should he eat." However, the first deals with motive and the second with slothfulness. There are "necessary meats." We should provide what's necessary for food, shelter, and clothing, but, beyond that, we are in direct conflict with the Word of God. It puts rather a fine point on what should motivate our labor. It should be pleasing to God. If my job consumes me, God is not pleased. Carefully consider a job's obligations before entering into contract. We should work hard to provide so we have more time to pursue God and His righteousness. For the believer, leisure time is time spent with Father. Since it is His power that sustains us, the closer we stay, the more powerful we are. Our thoughts should be consumed with knowing more about God. The more of His wisdom we acquire, the easier life becomes. Father is fully aware of our needs and has already made provision. Our problem is that we do not trust Him to do it. His commands ARE His blessings! They lead us to provision. We scurry about in a frenzy of our own activity trying to get what Father already has waiting for us if we would just obey. Our missionary family of seven needed about \$5000 to return to the U.S. for furlough, and we had no funds. Our monthly income rarely exceeded \$500. By faith, Dad made all the travel reservations. We waited. The day came when, we either had to pay or cancel. As Dad was riding his bicycle to the agent's office to cancel, he decided to make one more stop at the local post office. He had already been there several times earlier in the day. There was a single, thin, dog-eared, airmail letter in the box. It wasn't the letter he was waiting for. He slid it ruefully into his shirt pocket and continued on his journey. As he sat waiting in the agent's office, he decided to read the letter. It was from another missionary lady in Africa. Out slid a check for over \$5000. She had received an inheritance and was moved to send our family a love offering. *It had been mailed 3 months earlier!* "Your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask."

The bounty of our loving Lord,
Is ours upon His promised Word,
If we continue by His side,
Our Father always will provide. ~CGP

There are no coincidences with God. "He never is before His time and never is behind." ~Spurgeon

"Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He shall lift you up." James 4:8-10 KJV