**The Lord’s Prayer: 4th Petition – “Give us this day our daily bread”[[1]](#footnote-1)**

*“Here we ask God in general terms for the things which our body requires for its use by way of physical resources. We ask not only for what serves to feed and clothe us but for everything which God knows and recognizes is good and useful for us, so that we may enjoy the good things he gives us in peace and contentment. In sum, in this petition we commit ourselves as it were into his keeping and entrust ourselves to his providence that he may feed, support and preserve us. For this most kindly Father does not scorn to take even our bodies under his protection and care, in order to exercise our faith in these humble, petty matters when we look to him for all we need, even for a crumb of bread and a drop of water”* (Calvin, *Institutes*, 549).

1. **The first part of the petition: "Give."**
2. **The second part of the petition: "Us."**

**Basil:** "The bread that is spoiling in your house belongs to the hungry. The shoes that are mildewing under your bed belong to those who have none. The clothes stored away in your trunk belong to those who are naked."

1. **The third part of the petition: "Today."**
   1. **Proverbs 30:8**
   2. **Luke 12:16-20**
2. **The fourth part of the petition: “bread.”**

**WSC 104 Q. For what do we pray in the 4th petition? A.** We pray that we may receive an adequate amount of the good things in this life as a free gift of God and that with them we may enjoy his blessing.

* 1. **1 Tim. 6:8**

1. Much of the following is owed directly and indirectly to: Ryken, *When You Pray*; Calvin, *The Institutes of the Christian Religion*; Watson, *Lord’s Prayer*; Packer, *Praying the Lord’s Prayer*. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)