



## Sermon Notes from 25 November

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### The One Prayer To Secure Your Financial Sanity (*Matthew 6:9-13*)

by Rev Guna Raman

Financial security, stability and sanity is not gained from having sound financial principles, knowing how to make good investments or structuring a wise and workable budget. **An economically and spiritually healthy outlook on money begins with a prayer!** *Could it be that an embarrassing amount of our money is spent on one thing - us? We were never designed to put ourselves in the centre of our world and make our lives all about us.* Self-sovereignty - I am in control of my money, self-glory - my money is to serve my name and fame, and self-rule - I can use my money whichever way I want, will all rob us of true contentment, joy and lasting peace. To shift the financial center of your life from self to God, we need to turn to the Lord's Prayer - a prayer of surrender.

To Gain Financial Sanity and Security:

#### 1. **Your Identity - Our Father in heaven**

The identity you assign to yourself would determine how you think about life and respond to everything. The Gospel redefines our identity: God is our Father and we are His children. This brings us:

1) New Provisions (Matt 6) We do not have to worry. God our Father owns all things and is in control of all things. He will never leave us lacking. It is therefore foolish to live like orphans - striving to ensure that our needs are met.

Rom 8:31-32 The cross is the guarantee that God will faithfully provide for us. The word 'gave'/'give' is a provision word.

2) New Potentials The Holy Spirit opens our eyes to the grand purposes of the kingdom of God. You could now invest without anxiety in God's causes.

2. **Your Purpose - Hallowed be Your Name** - a prayer of commitment to use our resources freely for the name of God to be made known and revered everywhere. **You either spend your money to make your name great or to make God's name great.** Image drives much of our spending. We steal the glory that belongs to God.

3. **Your Commitment - Your kingdom come, Your will be done** We are either living for the kingdom of God or for self. Matt 6:19-33 Earth-bound treasures of people, places and possessions will never satisfy you. **The core lie of the kingdom of self is that by satisfying your self-oriented desires, you will find life.**

*How would your life change if you loved God's kingdom more than your own?*

4. **Your Lifestyle - Give us this day our daily bread** - a prayer for simplicity - for God to meet your basic needs.

**A contented heart is a necessary ingredient in any long-term lifestyle of God-honouring financial sanity.** Do not look for life where it cannot be found. Mal 3:11 Break away from the tyranny of unnecessary spending. Give to God and be blessed. Jesus, the Lord of untold riches, came to earth, not to flaunt his wealth but gave up everything, including his glory! His precious name was put to shame so that he could make us rich robed in his righteousness, have our names written in heaven, and call his Father, 'Our Father!' Jesus lived out the very prayer he taught us to pray. Contentment in God brings you health, life and strength!