

PRAYING THE KINGDOM

Matthew 6:9-13

SUMMARY...

As we consider what it takes to build a life of prayer, one thing stands out – what you seek above all else will determine your life of prayer. In other words, those who seek first above all else the Kingdom of God are people who never stop praying. And where there is prayerlessness, or at-least a lack of prayer, you will find someone who is not seeking first the Kingdom of God. Jesus connects the dots for us in his life and ministry – His life of prayer flourished because He sought first, above all else, the Kingdom of God.

In Matthew 6, Jesus teaches us not just ‘how’ to pray as much as he reveals ‘what’ we should pray. In the Lord’s prayer, Jesus helps us see the connection between our life of prayer and the Kingdom of God.

MAIN POINTS...

- “KINGDOM MINDED PEOPLE NEVER STOP PRAYING.”
- “PURSUING THE KINGDOM BEGINS IN PRAYER.”
- “OUR PRAYERS ARE THE BEST REFLECTION OF WHAT WE BELIEVE ABOUT GOD.”

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER...

Share with your GROUP how Twenty-one days of prayer has been thus far. Share how God is speaking to you regarding ‘how you might invest in the Kingdom of God this decade,’ and ask others to share how they might invest in the Kingdom of God.

1. Read [Matthew 6:33](#) – What would it look like if you pursued the Kingdom of God in all things – such as your home, relationships, career, community? Have you made the decision to seek first above all else the Kingdom of God? If no, why not? What are the things that hold you back or prevent you from pursuing first above all else His Kingdom?
2. Read [Matthew 4:8-10](#) – of all the temptations the enemy could have come after Jesus with, why tempt Him with the Kingdom of man? What does the temptation of the Kingdom of man even look like? How has this temptation showed up in your life? What do we learn from Jesus’ response to this temptation that will help us when we are tempted to give ourselves to the Kingdom of Man?
3. Read [Matthew 6:9-13](#) – a few questions regarding the Lord’s prayer:
 - a. If we are to come to God as “Our Father” – what might it look like to begin approaching God as His child? What prevents us from approaching God as ‘our Father?’

- b. If you believed that you had the heart and ear of God, what would you ask Him for? If our prayers reveal what we believe about God, what are your current prayers revealing to you about what you believe about God? Share scripture that reveal His power, majesty, sovereignty.
 - c. 'May your Kingdom come soon...' – what does it look like to live out an answer to this prayer? Where is God wanting His Kingdom to break forth in your life?
 - d. 'May your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven...' – who in your life might begin to benefit from you pursuing the will of God above your own? How might your pursuit of God's will above your own help others to see the King and His Kingdom?
4. Considering prayer in general – in [Matthew 6:6](#), Jesus tells us to pray in private. And yet, He teaches us to pray together, saying "OUR Father." Why is prayer often viewed as a personal and private thing? Why is it so difficult to pray within groups of people? How can I, this GROUP, help you grow in your prayer life?
5. Remind people of the opportunities to grow in prayer over the **21 Days of Prayer**
 - a. Everyday – stop for 21 seconds at 12 noon to pray the Lord's prayer. And seek to spend 21 minutes in prayer at a time best for you.
 - b. Friday night prayer (Jan 10th, 17th) from 7 – 8:30 p.m.
 - c. Fasting (Jan 7, 14, 21) - fast from at least one meal and replace that time focused in prayer as you seek the Kingdom of God above all else.

BIBLICAL TEXTS CITED...

Next the devil took him to the peak of a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. "I will give it all to you," he said, "if you will kneel down and worship me." "Get out of here, Satan," Jesus told him. "For the Scriptures say, 'You must worship the Lord your God and serve only him.'" **Matthew 4:8-10 (NLT)**

"Pray like this: Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy. May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us today the food we need, and forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us. And don't let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one." **Matthew 6:9-13 (NLT)**

Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need. **Matthew 6:33**

SERMON ONLINE...

www.genesisthejourney.com/sermon/praying-the-kingdom/