

Teach us to Pray - Your Kingdom Come Your Will be Done

Sunday Sermon – 2/16/2025

Bishop Steven A. Norman, Pastor

Matthew 6:9-15 In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. 10 Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. 11 Give us this day our daily bread. 12 And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. 13 And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen. 14 "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

What we call the Lord's prayer is actually a prayer Jesus outlined/patterned for Believers to follow concerning Prayer. (Matthew 6, Luke 11)

Praying like this takes discipline and trust.

Jesus's prayer model is Kingdom first, others second, and then us.

Pray for His Kingdom to Come and His Will to be Done

There is only one New Testament Gospel, and it is the Gospel of the Kingdom of God.

Jesus preached this Gospel while here on the earth.

Mark 1:14-15 Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, 15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." (the word Gospel means good news).

Jesus preached this same Good News after His resurrection.

Acts 1:3 to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.

This is the Gospel that the Apostles preached- Acts 8:12 But when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized.

Jesus said that the Gospel of the Kingdom of God must be preached to all the world before He comes a second time.

Matthew 24: And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.

So, we see Jesus and the Apostles only preached the Gospel (Good News) of the Kingdom of God.

What is the Kingdom of God? It is about a King, His Domain and His ways of Getting things done.

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The King of the Kingdom of God is none other than Jesus Christ, *His sovereign reign embodies love, grace, truth, and justice.*

The boundless mercy of God softens the scales of His justice, working in our favor and ensuring that compassion prevails even amidst accountabilities.

<u>Psalms 103:10</u> he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. ¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; ¹² as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.¹³ As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him;

His kingdom encompasses both territory in the seen and unseen realms and the hearts of those who willingly submit themselves to Jesus'. His divine authority, teachings, and guidance, where their lives are fashioned according to God's original plan.

This kingdom is governed by an overarching set of principles known as the Father's will or righteousness.

Through these principles, Jesus invites His followers to embrace the Eternal Abundant Life that He died for.

A Life full of purpose, integrity, and abundance, reflecting the values of His kingdom through one's words, thoughts and deeds.

There is an opposing kingdom known in the bible as the kingdom of darkness that is governed by a prince called satan.

Jesus' mission was to destroy the works of this kingdom of darkness by seeking and saving those who are lost in it. 1 John 3:8 He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

Jesus destroys the works of the devil by offering salvation. Luke 19:10 for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

Jesus also came to destroy the curse that came through sin. Galatians 3:13-14 Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"), 14 that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

When we enter the kingdom, we must learn and work the principles of the kingdom so that the life (blessing) that we receive at salvation can manifest the promises of God and positively affect our lives.

This is what Jesus had to say about the positive effects of the Kingdom. Luke 12:29-32 "And do not seek what you should eat or what you should drink, nor have an anxious mind. 30 For all these things the nations of the world seek after, and your Father knows that you need these things. 31 But seek the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you. 32 "Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

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Notice that it says here it is the Father's pleasure to give you the Kingdom. That means He will give us the principles of the Kingdom, give us the wisdom of the King, and He'll give us the treasure of the Kingdom, which is His Authority, Power, and wealth.

The Kingdom of God operates by faith; that is why Jesus tells His audience not to fear. For the King, through His Kingdom, will provide for us.

Instead of repeatedly asking God for your needs, ask God to help with your unbelief by asking Him to increase your faith! Ask Him to increase your confidence in Him that He knows you need or desire, and He is ready to answer.

Mark 9:23-24 Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." 24 Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!"

Philippians 2:13 (NLT) For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.

Whenever God asks us to do something, it's for our benefit, and He takes on the responsibility to work it through us if we let Him.

Philippians 2:13 says that God gives the "Desire and the Power" to do the things that please Him.

Because we are citizens of the Kingdom of God, we can pray with assurance, as stated in Hebrews 10:21-23 ... and having a High Priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. 23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.