The Kingdom and the Will of God- Session 3

START

Welcome to group session 3 of Pray like This. Ask participants to discuss what they learned in their personal study by answering the following questions.

What’s one truth that stood out to you as you completed the personal study this week?

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As you focused on honoring the name of God as holy, did you notice any changes in your daily perspective?

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The next lines of Jesus’ Model Prayer deal with the kingdom and the will of God:

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done

on earth as it is in heaven.

MATTHEW 6:10-11

How would you define kingdom of God?

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Just as Jesus pointed to the glory of God in the previous portion of His prayer, He continued with a God-centered perspective. Jesus instructed us to pray that God’s kingdom would come and that God’s will would be done on earth as it is in heaven. In this video session your group will discover more about the kingdom of God and why Christians should actively seek God’s kingdom and God’s will.

Read together the text of Jesus’ Model Prayer, found in Matthew 6:9-13. Then watch video session 3.

WATCH

God’s glory and honor are directly tied to the matter of authority. God’s name is to be hallowed because God is in charge.

God’s kingdom is His rule and reign both in our lives and on the earth and one day on the new earth.

The kingdom comes in our lives when we are surrendered to the will of God, when we’re dying each day to our own desires.

We pray for the kingdom of God to come and for the will of God to be done, and then we act in faith by doing the things that are tangible examples of the rule and the reign of God.

When we are asking for the kingdom of God to come in situations of life, then we’re asking that the ruling presence of Jesus that already exists would exist in this very moment, for this very season, for this specific time in my life.

“Your kingdom come” and “Your will be done” are going to put you in the right posture of both petitioning in prayer as well as submission in prayer.

When we’re praying for the kingdom of God to come, we are really asking God to make us instruments in a partnership with other people that are praying these same prayers to multiply the kingdom.

Sometimes it’s difficult for us to understand or discern God’s will because it is so different from what we think we want in the natural.

We’re in essence asking God to bring to fruition and to its fullness what we already enjoy.

With the kingdom comes the King.

We want our prayer life to give us greater obedience, not greater hypocrisy.

It’s very important that we connect our obedience and our prayers together so that our prayers are helping us to live things out.

EBOOK AND VIDEO SESSIONS AVAILABLE AT LIFEWAY.COM/PRAYLIKETHIS

DISCUSS

Jesus told us that we should pray for God’s kingdom to come and for God’s will to be done on earth as it is in heaven.

After watching the video, how would you define kingdom of God?

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When we genuinely pray for God’s kingdom to come and His will to be done, what’s revealed about our hearts?

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What’s challenging about praying like this?

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The kingdom of God is present anywhere the reign and rule of God are lovingly embraced. The kingdom of God has already come in Christians because we’ve surrendered to His will as our Lord. We should continue to pursue God’s will and rule in us and in the rest of the world. Of course, we must relinquish our own will and die to ourselves daily, for we can’t pursue both our will and God’s will at the same time.

Why is dying to ourselves necessary for us to seek the kingdom of God?

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What are some ways Jesus taught us—not only with words but also with actions—to seek the will and kingdom of God?

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What practical actions can we take to show our commitment to the will and kingdom of God?

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As we pray, we pray in faith that God will bring His kingdom. One way we show the validity of our faith is through our actions, seeking the kingdom and the will of God even as we pray for them to come.

PRAY

Lead the group in prayer. Pray that you and your group will surrender your will to God daily. Pray that God will bring His kingdom and that you and your group will actively seek His kingdom. [Gaines, Steve & Kelley, Michael (2017). Pray Like This - Bible Study eBook (p. 38). LifeWay Christian Resources. Retrieved from https://app.wordsearchbible.com.]