

The Lord's Prayer—Your Kingdom Come
Study Questions
Matthew 6:10

Warm-up

1) Are there one or two things you find yourself talking about to friends (or posting online about) more than anything else? If so, what is it, and why does it come up so much?

A little deeper

2) [Matthew 6:10a] People's understanding of the Kingdom of God evolved over the course of time. In Old Testament times, God was seen as a King of earthly kings and as the source of legitimacy for the monarchy in Jerusalem. But this view started to change just as the monarchy was dissolving. **Read Isaiah 9:6-7, 16:5, and 53:5-12—what aspects of the Kingdom of God was Isaiah proclaiming even 700 years before Jesus's ministry?**

3) Jesus described "The Kingdom of God" or "The Kingdom of Heaven" in many different ways throughout the Gospels: good seed among weeds, yeast, priceless treasure, fishing nets (Matthew 13:24-30, 33, 44-46, 47-50); a kingdom where forgiveness is prized (Matthew 18:23-35); a landowner seeking workers (Matthew 20:1-16); a king hosting a wedding banquet (Matthew 22:2-14); virgins meeting a bridegroom (Matthew 25:1-13); a traveling land owner who puts servants in charge (Matthew 25:14-30); a growing seed or a mustard seed (Mark 4:26-29, 30-32). **What descriptions of the Kingdom of God are the most illustrative to you?**

What do these things tell us about the Kingdom of God?

4) How have you seen the Kingdom of God already present in the world?

In what ways have you seen that God's Kingdom is not yet established throughout the world?

Bringing it home

5) [Matthew 6:10b, c] To pray for God's Kingdom and that His will be done on earth as in heaven, it means that we need to be ready to submit to His Kingship. We need to be willing to do the work to discover God's will for us, understand how it applies to our lives currently, and then actually submit to His will. **What are some ways in which you have been seeking to understand God's will?**

Is there anything you have been finding difficult when trying to submit to God's will in your life?

6) It can be difficult to submit to God's will when we look around and see people that don't care about God's will for them or for the world. **Is there anything about the fallen world around you that interferes with your submission to God?**

How can you better shift your focus to bringing God glory?

Prayer

7) Pray together using verses 6:9-10 of Matthew as a template for prayer. Start with a time of wonder and praise for God, then follow up with specific petitions regarding God's will in your life, in your community, and in the world.