

## Pray First Week 3

### Kingdom Prayer Part 2

Intro: *We are in our 3<sup>rd</sup> week of Pray First, 21 days of intentional prayer/fasting. We are making room for God to have His way in our lives this year! Prayer is the conversation part of our relationship with God that keeps us on the same page with Him. He knew we'd have to take care of the kids, go to school, and work but He still asks us to spend time with Him in prayer.*

- When prayer changes us, it can change our marriage, our relationship with our kids or coworkers. It can literally change our entire life.
- You can't come into contact with the Almighty and not be changed.

**Prayer is the most powerful tool we've been given on our assignment.**

- But many people never move from wanting something from God to doing something with God. Prayer is both.
- We confuse our destiny with our assignment. Our destiny is to get to Heaven, but our assignment is to bring Heaven. ("When you fast and pray...")

### **Jesus Announces the Kingdom**

#### **Mark 1:15-20 (TPT)**

*His message was this: "At last the fulfillment of the age has come! It is time for the realm of God's kingdom to be experienced in its fullness! Turn your lives back to God and put your trust in the hope-filled gospel!"*

- Jesus' announcement His Kingdom with urgency. It wasn't passive or nonchalant. It wasn't when you get time for it or if you want to. It stirred expectation and it was a call to action!
- Then teaches us the key to the Kingdom Life.

### **Jesus Releases the Kingdom**

#### **Matthew 6:9-10 (NIV)**

*9 "This, then, is how you should pray: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, 10 your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.*

- God is Abba Father (Daddy) God wants us to relate to Him as His kids.
- "Holy is Your name": Who God is, His character, His power, His promise, His goodness. A posture of praise. God wants us to come looking up, focused on who He is.

#### **1. "...Your Kingdom come."**

- This isn't a generic prayer of one day we want to go to Heaven. It's a specific prayer of, "I am looking for God's dominion (His solution) to be realized in this situation and in the earth."
- Kingdom: The King's Domain/Rule- This acknowledges Him as the king of our lives. A longing for Him to have rule and reign in every area.
- I want His presence to be evident in my relationships, in my career, in the good and tough times but also through me in areas I influence. (Home, Community, World)

#### **Ex. Jesus gives evidence of the Kingdom:**

- He was ministering to an individual who was tormented by a demon

#### **Matthew 12:28**

*"If I cast a demon out of you by the Spirit of God, then the Kingdom of God has come upon you."*

- Jesus made the point that if He got the demon out of that person, it is only because the Kingdom of God collided with the kingdom of darkness and...God's Kingdom is superior.
- It is vital we value what heaven values, and the supreme value of heaven is the presence of God.
- As followers of Christ, we are all ministers of the Kingdom. We are not just releasing a message; we are releasing His presence. We are distributors of His dominion because we are carriers of His presence.

#### ***We are people of His Presence!***

#### **2. "Your will be done..."**

- God's Word is the foundation of prayer. Not what we feel or think, or circumstances. Not some opinion.
- This is where it gets personal because it's a prayer of surrender. Not my will but your will. Not my desires, my plans, or my ways; but yours instead. "I want what You want more than I want what I want."
- Sometimes the will of God feels ambiguous. Like a mystery. (Who should I marry? Where should I go to school? Is this the right job?) But God has given His Word that is full of His ways.
- When we become familiar with His ways, it reveals His will. (Many Christians are educated beyond their level of obedience.)
- This part of the prayer recognizes that His Word has ultimate authority. If you want to pray powerful prayers, learn to pray the Word of God first.
- Want to take your prayer life to a greater level this year? Get in agreement with God by praying the Word! (Not just more time and passion)

#### **Isaiah 55:11**

*His Word never fails, but it always accomplishes what it has been sent to do!*

- Confess: "Say the same thing as" So when we confess God's Word, we are saying what He says...we are getting in agreement with God.

- We can come into agreement with our feelings, our circumstances, what others say, what the devil says or with what God says!

### **Romans 10:17 (NKJV)**

*So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

- When things get hard, challenging, scary, and confusing we have a firm foundation of His Word. (When business is slow, when the kids are crazy, when the world goes crazy)
- Let's just decide we will people of His Word: Thinking, Speaking, Praying.

Study: IF YOU READ THE BIBLE 4X A WEEK, THESE ARE THE RESULTS:

- o *Feeling lonely drops 30%*
- o *Anger issues drop 32%*
- o *Bitterness in relationships drops 40%*
- o *Alcoholism drops 57%*
- o *Sex outside of marriage drops 68%*
- o *Feeling spiritually stagnant drops 60%*
- o *Viewing pornography drops 61%*
- o *Sharing your faith jumps 200%*
- o *Discipling others jumps 230%*

### **1 John 5:14-15 (Amplified)**

*<sup>14</sup> This is the [remarkable degree of] confidence which we [as believers are entitled to] have before Him: that [<sup>a</sup>]if we ask anything according to His will, [that is, consistent with His plan and purpose] He hears us. <sup>15</sup> And if we know [for a fact, as indeed we do] that He hears and listens to us in whatever we ask, we [also] know [with settled and absolute knowledge] that we have [granted to us] the requests which we have asked from Him.*

***We are people of His purpose!***

### **3. "...on earth as it is in heaven."**

- This is the result of prayer. Prayer Brings the Power of Heaven to Earth.

### **Matthew 28:18 (NIV)**

*Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.*

### **John 20:21 (NIV)**

*As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."*

- Jesus says this after His resurrection and as the Son of Man, our big brother. He restored the authority that man had in the Garden of Eden and sent them with it.

- Jesus has given us legitimate spiritual authority in this life to bring God's will and presence into our circumstances.

### **Matthew 16:16-19 (CSB)**

<sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." <sup>17</sup> Jesus responded, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah,<sup>[a]</sup> because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock **I will build my church**, and the gates of Hades will not overpower it. <sup>19</sup> **I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will have been bound<sup>[b]</sup> in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will have been loosed<sup>[c]</sup> in heaven.**"

- Notice the keys (Heaven's resources) and authority was given by the Father to the church through Jesus. (We don't have access to this authority outside of the local church)
- The reality of Heaven invades the reality of Earth when we pray. Prayer is like a passport from the natural to the supernatural.
- Prayer doesn't get God to do something that He doesn't want to do. Prayer gives us access to what He already wants to do.
- Heaven is waiting on the church. The church isn't waiting on Heaven.
- We've been given the keys, now we need to learn what they go to. (Local church)

### **Practice the Power of Agreement in the Local Church**

- Pray together with others. (With your kids, with your spouse, as a team, as a church)
- The divorce rate for couples who pray consistently was less than 1%. 1 out of 1,152 couples who pray together get divorced.
- Prayer actually thickens parts of the brain's cortex, to guard against depression — especially in those at risk for the disease.
- Are less likely to experience anxiety-related disorders — worry, fear, self-consciousness, social anxiety and obsessive-compulsive behavior.
- Act as if it is DONE! *"Whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."* (Mark 11:24, NIV)
- Don't fall out of agreement with your prayers by the way you speak.

***We are people of His power!***

***Every time you pray, remember you are a person of HIS Presence, Purpose, and Power.***