

Wednesday, January 25, 2023
LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY
PROPER PRIORITY

Tonight, we continue the series, “Lord, Teach us to Pray” by taking a look at the second prayer point in the Lord’s Prayer.

“Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.” ///
Matthew 6:10

Do you believe that God has a plan for every single day of your life?

Psalm 139:16 – “All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.”

God knows how long you will live and has a will for each day of your life. The Lord’s plan is for us to fulfill the will of God for today. But, the devil and our flesh has other plans. But, we know that Jesus has already won the victory for us and so, we must decide to walk in it. We don’t go around praying weak prayers like, “Jesus, please help me today!” Instead, we put our foot down and boldly declare, “Come, kingdom of God! Be done will of God!”

In the Greek, the verbs are found at the front of these statements for emphasis. Instead of a plea, it is a command that sets God’s will and His kingdom as the dominant forces surrounding today’s activities. In our hectic days, if you don’t run your life, it will run you over. It is up to you to decide what will influence you today and what goals you will follow. What will be the influencing factor in your life today? The kingdom of God. And what is the kingdom of God?

Romans 14:17: “The kingdom of God is not meat and drink, but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.”

Our influences today are not of this world, but they are righteousness, peace and joy as we walk in the Holy Ghost. And the goal that determines our actions? The will of God! Here’s how to set this in order in your prayer life. Declare the will of God and the kingdom of God to be done:

1. In yourself

It may seem selfish to pray over ourself first. The Bible says in *James 5:16*: “*The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.*” We need our heart set right before we pray for others. Continue to pray for yourself, for your day until you know by the Spirit that the kingdom and will of God are both your influence and goal for the day.

2. Your family

If you're married, pray for your spouse. If you want to marry, pray for your future mate. Pray over your children and their future mates. Listen to the Spirit for specifics to pray. Pray for your extended family; parents, brothers and sisters, etc. Pray that God's will be first before their own desires. Pray that God will send laborers across their paths.

3. Your Church

Next, pray for your church and the church. Pray for your pastors; that they will be courageous and boldly declare the will of God. Pray that they will be kept pure and victorious over the attacks of the enemy. Pray for the leaders and ministers of the church – that they will fulfill their ministry with joy and anointing. Pray that the people of the church will be faithful – to their families, to the vision, to Jesus, to their calling. Pray for the harvest, that the church will be filled with people from the north, south, east, and west. Command the principalities and powers who blind the minds of unbelievers to release them in Jesus Name. Ask the Lord to draw every person who is supposed to be in the church to the house of God. Pray for the finances of the church, that the people will give and that the finances of the church will increase so that the reach of the church can increase.

4. Your nation

Next, pray for the United States. Pray for the President. It doesn't matter if you like him or not, you are commanded to pray for him. Pray that he will be wise, courageous, protected and be a person of prayer who trusts in Jesus. Pray for your national, state, and local leaders in the same manner. Know their names. Pray for true revival in the U.S. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Ps. 122) and the success of Israel and its salvation. God may lay other nations upon your heart. When He does, pray for them. To pray intelligently, learn about them and study them. Pray for worldwide revival and the sending of laborers into the harvest field.

This is how we should pray the will of God as the goal and the kingdom of God as the influence in this day. Next week, we will travel on to the next prayer point, but think of this as we close in prayer tonight. The Lord's Prayer has five major themes:

1. Praise – praise and worship
2. Priority – kingdom authority
3. Provision - prosperity
4. People - relationships
5. Protection – spiritual authority

After that, we affirm our faith in these through praise. Now, the restoration of these themes in the church in our time will bring about the vitality and power needed for revival.

Today's Scriptures:

- Matthew 6:10
- Psalm 139:16
- Romans 14:17
- James 5:16