

Pray like Jesus: It's Not About You

Wylie United Methodist Church
Pastor Jeff Hatcher – August 7, 2011

Matt 6:9-13

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. ¹¹ Give us today our daily bread. ¹² Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. ¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'

What is Jesus teaching us here?

1. THERE ARE TWO KINGDOMS

Earthly Kingdom (Flesh)

Heavenly Kingdom (Spirit)

John 18:36

Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place."

John 3:5-6

Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.

2. EACH KINGDOM IS IN CONFLICT WITH THE OTHER

- Earthly Kingdom

- Ruler: Satan is Prince of the world
- Laws: There are no rules
- Subjects: Demons, those living in sin outside of Christ
- Reign: The world (no authority in heaven)

John 14:30-31

I will not speak with you much longer, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no hold on me, but the world must learn that I love the Father and that I do exactly what my Father has commanded me.

• Heavenly Kingdom

- Ruler: Jesus Christ, King of Kings
- Laws: God's law (holiness, righteousness, justice, truth)
- Subjects: Angels, those redeemed by Christ
- Reign: Heaven (ability to impact the world through the power of the Holy Spirit)

Gal 5:17

¹⁷ For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want.

3. GOD'S NAME, HIS KINGDOM AND HIS WILL COME FIRST

Matt 6:9-10

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

"Being a Christian is less about cautiously avoiding sin than about courageously and actively doing God's will." -
Bonhoeffer

- For God's Kingdom to advance on earth
His will must be done in the Church
- For God's will to be done in the Church
it must be done in our hearts

Luke 22:42

"Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not
my will, but yours be done."