



Community Group Study: The Purpose of Prayer
Breakthrough - Part 2 | Matthew 6:10 | week of April 30

GETTING STARTED

- What are some common reasons why people struggle with prayer?
- From those reasons listed by your group, identify the factors that consistently have the greatest (negative) impact on your prayer life.

CONTEXT

- Read Matthew 6:9. What do we learn about God and about prayer from the opening address and petition of the Lord's Prayer?

Read Matthew 6:10.

OBSERVATION

- What do the three opening petitions of the Lord's Prayer (6:9b-10) have in common?

MEANING

- What is the kingdom of God? How does it differ from the kingdom of this world? (Consider the ruler, people, desires, and destiny of each.)
- Why can we rightly say that Jesus was (and is) a king but not a tyrant?

- Explain the difference between the sovereign will and the commanded will of God. (If you need help, look to Isa 46:9-10 as an expression of God's sovereign will, and any moral command or teaching - like Matt 6:16-18 - as an expression of God's commanded will.)
- Why can we be sure that Jesus is teaching us to pray for the accomplishment of God's commanded will, rather than his sovereign will? What does this teach us about the purpose of prayer?

APPLICATION

- What keeps you from gladly submitting to the commanded will of God? Where do you need to grow in this? How can you grow in this?
- What does prayer have to do with denying ourselves?
- Think out the present-day implications of the prayer “your kingdom come,” so far as you are able to see them. How should this prayer shift your priorities, values, and actions?
- How is the second verse of the Lord’s Prayer an encouragement to you to engage further/deeper in prayer?

NEXT STEPS

- Read and pray through Psalm 119.
- Commit to praying daily for one unbeliever in your life. Ask God to make his kingdom come in that person’s heart.
- Write a prayer asking God to renew your affection for his Word (the revelation of his commanded will). Ask him to grow in you a submission to his will through prayer.