

Prayer

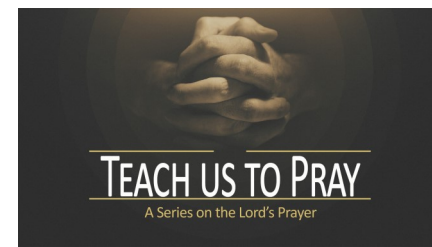
Your Life Group, and all of the others meeting this week, are the prayer meetings of our church. How cool is that!
Please spend time praying for each other and our church.

Pray for opportunities to share the hope of Christ with others.

Each other:

Church

- *Fallfest is coming. Pray for help, and for people to come.*
- *Pastors, Staff and Leadership*
- *Stampede and Round Up*
- *God to provide the financial resources we need.*
- *Youth and College Ministries*
- *Life Groups meeting around the area this week*



Your Kingdom Come
Bob Kennedy October 2, 2016

Getting Started

A platitude is a moral comment that has been used too much to be found insightful, and is often said quickly, casually and without much thought. Examples are: "There is no I in team"; "Time heals all wounds"; "Good things come to those who wait"... you get the idea. Can you come up with some more annoying platitudes?

Going Deeper

"Your kingdom come" is a petition, not a platitude. What is the difference between a platitude and a petition?

Why might some be tempted to pray this as a platitude instead of a petition?

The verb in this petition is "come." What is the action that we are asking to be accomplished? Who is the one accomplishing the action?

Pastor Bob rewrote this petition to read: "Our Father, come and reign without rival." Take a moment and rewrite this petition in your own words.

Praying "your kingdom come" is really praying for the king to come. You can't have a kingdom without a king. What does it mean for us to pray this?

The hope of the gospel is that God will be king on earth like he is king in heaven. "On earth as it is in heaven" focuses this petition on the sphere of our real, physical reality. We are not praying for a closer, unseen, "spiritual" relationship with God. We are praying for God to actually come, and to really be our King, and to really bring the full reality of his Kingdom (healing, justice, forgiveness, the end of evil, the effects of the fall of man restored). Reflect on that and then respond to the last few questions:

- Why are we tempted to pray this petition in a "spiritual sense" but not in the real, actual sense?
- This petition expresses a longing (we need God) and a reality (things are broken). How might praying this petition be a way to participate with God to bring change in our political and social climate?

Some practical ideas for this week:

Spend some time this week praying "Your Kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven." Don't pray it in the spiritual sense, but pray for "our father" to actually make it happen here.