

REVIEW

Before you begin this week's response to the sermon, take time to share with your Life Group your reflections on your experience with a prayer practice you engaged with this past week. You may find it helpful to use the following questions to guide your conversation:

- How would you describe your experience of this prayer practice?
- In what ways did God meet you through it?
- What insights or experiences from this practice will continue to shape your prayer life moving forward?

ICEBREAKER

If you could change one thing about our present world to make it more like heaven, what would it be and why?

IDEA 1

Rob's focus this week was on Matthew 6:10 - "May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven"

What do you think Jesus meant by "may your Kingdom come?"

Rob posed the question - What would heaven look like if it inhabited my..... classroom, my workplace, my neighborhood, my house, my gym, my book club, our hospitals, courts and state capital building.....?

How would you respond to that? Choose one specific space in your life and share what God's kingdom coming to that space would actually look like in practical terms.

IDEA 2

Rob highlighted three types of prayer that we often gravitate to:

- **We know better** (we initiate and in a way, we're trying to convince God to adopt our agenda)
- **God knows better** (I resign to saying - ultimately you, God are in control, all knowing, you already know what is going to happen - so why pray?)
- **Middle Voice** (we are joining what God is doing and our prayers allow us to be brought into how He is working)

Which of the three prayer types do you find yourself gravitating toward most often? Can you identify a specific example from your recent prayer life that illustrates this pattern?

How does viewing prayer as "joining what God is doing" change your approach to prayer?

What specific kingdom actions might God be inviting you to participate in right now?

EXPERIENCING GOD TOGETHER

Leader: "We're going to practice 'middle voice' prayer together—joining what God is already doing rather than trying to convince Him of our agenda or being completely passive. We'll use the 'binocular' approach from the sermon: looking at our community with both God's love/vision AND honest grief about what's broken."

The Love Lens (1 minute)

Leader: "In silence, picture our community—our neighborhood, workplace, school, or city.

Ask God to show you what He loves about this place. **What beauty does He see? What potential? What good things are already happening here that reflect His kingdom?"**

[1 minute of silent reflection]

Leader: "If anyone feels led, briefly share one thing you sensed God loves about our community."

[Allow 2-3 brief shares—keep it moving]

The Grief Lens (1 minute)

Leader: "Still picturing the same place, ask God to help you see what breaks His heart here."

What needs healing? What injustice? What brokenness? Don't try to fix it—just see it honestly."

[1 minute of silent reflection]

Leader: "Let's acknowledge this brokenness together. You can simply say a word or phrase —'loneliness,' 'addiction,' 'division'—whatever you're sensing."

[Allow 30 seconds for people to speak single words/short phrases]

Joining God's Work (2 minutes)

Leader: Now let's ask God what He's already doing in our community and how we might join Him.

Pray silently: 'God, where are you working here? What kingdom action are you already beginning? How might we participate?'"

[1 minute of silent prayer]

Leader: "Now let's pray aloud together using this simple pattern. After someone prays, we'll all respond with 'Your kingdom come.' Don't pray for God to do things—pray about joining what He's doing. You might start with phrases like:

- 'God, help us join you in...'
- 'Show us how to participate in your work of...'
- 'We want to partner with you as you...'"

[1 minute of short sentence prayers with group responding "Your kingdom come" after each one]

Close by praying the Lord's Prayer together

PRACTICE FOR THIS WEEK

This week, download the “Holy Here” app and commit to a 30-minute prayer walk in your neighborhood or workplace. As you walk, pray specifically for God’s Kingdom to come in that place.

Prayer prompts for your walk:

- “Lord, show me this neighborhood through Your eyes.”
- “Father, what are the needs here that break Your heart?”
- “Holy Spirit, how might You be inviting me to be part of Your Kingdom work here?”
- For homes: “May Your peace rest on this home. May Your Kingdom come here.”
- For businesses: “May this place operate with integrity and serve the community well.”
- For schools: “May truth, wisdom, and compassion flourish here.”

Take notes on your phone or in a journal about what God shows you during this walk. In the app, consider making your walk public so others can see where we are bringing purposeful prayer in our valley.