

Mt. 6:9-10 Kingdom Small Groups Discussion Questions

Pray: As a group take at least two minutes of time to pray silently for God to cultivate the soil of each heart for *his kingdom come*. Listen to the silence and to the Spirit for things to offer or postpone as He prepares each heart and mind *first to listen to the word*, then to share with one another.

Pause for prayer.

Read: As background, start by reading together Psalm 37:7-11, and Matthew 5:3-10. Make sure everyone has had the opportunity to read both passages. Now. . . answer the following

1. What “land” is the Psalmist speaking of in verse 7?
2. What exactly did this promise mean for ancient Israel? What land do you think he is referring to? How did this relate to “a coming kingdom?”
3. Jesus obviously knows this parallel. Why do you think he uses such similar language in the sermon on the mount? What aspect of the kingdom is he pointing to? How is it different from the original promise?

Now **read Luke 6:20 and Mt. 6:9-10**. In fact, do not just read them. Begin by praying them together out loud.

1. First of all, how did it feel to pray this together? What experiences do you bring into this experience?
2. How does this prayer of beseeching the Lord to bring His kingdom rest upon Jesus’ earlier teaching on those who will inherit the kingdom? In other words, name the connections.
3. Why would Jesus have his disciples pray this when he (the promised coming King) is standing right in front of them? How does this relate to us now?
4. What does “your kingdom come” actually mean? Is kingdom heaven, the church, something else? Is it a past, present or future prayer?
5. If God is the one bringing the kingdom- according to his will - then why are we called to pray this way? What is the effect on us? What is our role?

Do not let the discussion simply stick in the cognitive realm without the group together imagining and practicing their understanding. Ask outright,

1. How do you plan to pray differently?
2. What is God calling us to as a praying community that we may be lacking?
3. What is the invitation for us as a small group community and for me as a growing disciple? Summarize in one sentence using at least one word from the text.