

Community Group Growth Questions

1. Share with the group any insight, truth, or observation from Sunday's message that helped you, troubled you, or ministered to you.
2. When you think of the word *kingdom*, what images come to mind? Who is ruling? What are the subjects of a kingdom like?
3. Define God's kingdom. How do we become a "subject" in His kingdom? (Col. 1:13-14; 1 Th. 2:11-13) Is it possible to be in God's kingdom, yet your allegiance is divided? Explain.
4. What does it mean to pray "Your kingdom come"? Using this phrase as a "pattern" for prayer, how might we more specifically pray for God's kingdom to come?
5. How do we know what is God's will in order for us to specifically pray for it to be done on earth as it is in heaven?
6. Discuss how these petitions to God impact you personally.

Living on Mission

1. Begin the practice of praying for God's kingdom to come. What kinds of things will you specifically ask of God?
2. Many times when we pray, God asks us to personally be the answer to that prayer. Is God asking you to obey in a way that will increase God's kingdom?
3. If you are a Christian, you are a subject in God's kingdom. Is there any traitorous way in you? How is your allegiance to your King? Pray Psalm 139:23-24 and ask God to empower you for faithful service to Him.
4. Are you more likely to pray "my will be done, Lord" or "Your will be done, Lord"? Consider your recent times of prayer with God. Which model does your prayer more resemble? How can you incorporate God's word in your prayer time to ensure you are praying in His will and for His will to be done?

This Week's Reading:

Monday: Matthew 6:10; 1 Corinthians 4:20

Tuesday: Romans 14:17

Wednesday: Colossians 1:13-14

Thursday: 1 Thessalonians 2:11-13

Friday: John 18:36

Saturday: Psalm 40:6-8 and 143:10

The Moldova Team leaves this Thursday, July 5. The team members are Pastor Richard Marsh, Daniel Cooper, Andy and Holly Joiner and Chris Goode. Please pray for the Moldova Team this week for our Missionaries safety, that the Message is heard, the Movement of people hearts, and for Moldova and its people.

Additional Resources:

A Hunger for God: Desiring God through Fasting & Prayer by John Piper
When You Pray: Making the Lord's Prayer Your Own by Philip Graham Ryken
The Prayer of the Lord by R. C. Sproul
The Sermon on the Mount by James Boice

Next Quarterly Membership Meeting - Sunday July 22 - 5:00pm to 6:30pm at the Comfort Inn - Aikens Center located at 1872 Edwin Miller Blvd in Martinsburg. Hor d'oeuvres will be served. Childcare to age five will be provided.

Interested in Membership? Our next Gospel Class will be offered on Saturday, July 21. Email tammy@martinsburgchurch.org to register.

Baptism Celebration is scheduled for Sunday, July 22. Sign up at baptism.martinsburgchurch.org or call the church office at 304-596-9330 to register.

Discipleship Opportunity: Sign Up in the Lobby Today!

Men's Bible Study begins July 21 – meets every other Saturday – Contact Ray Borden at rjrm@msn.com or Dan Edman at dan@martinsburgchurch.org. Workbook needed.

Please begin praying for the Blackshear Place Baptist Church mission team coming to work with C@M from 08/04/12 through 08/10/12. Contact Dan Edman at dan@martinsburgchurch.org on how you can get involved and serve with them.

Pastor On Call: If you or your family have an emergency and need to get hold of a pastor from Friday morning through Monday morning please call 304.616.9007 to reach The Church at Martinsburg's Pastor on call.

Missionary Toolbox:

"When we pray 'Your kingdom come,' we pray for three things: First, we pray for the final and ultimate establishment of God's kingdom. We pray for the day when all creation will freely call Him 'Dearest Father' – 'Abba.' There is an almost martial, triumphant ring to 'Your kingdom come.' Come, O Lord! Second, we pray 'Your kingdom come' so we will be conformed to His will in this world. As we pray this, we hand ourselves over to the grace of God so He may do with us as He pleases. Your kingdom come in my life. Use me for Your kingdom. Third, 'Your kingdom come' is a prayer that God's rule will come to others through us. It is a prayer for Christ to work His revolutionary power in a fallen world. Your kingdom come in my family, my job, my city, my nation.

This is a big prayer that depends on a big God. And when truly prayed, it makes for a big life. Is your life, is my life, big enough to pray, 'Your kingdom come'?"
[Sermon on the Mount: The Message of the Kingdom by R. Kent Hughes (Crossway Books)]

"The Lord's Prayer shows us the astonishing nature of prayer. It puts in the position of greatest importance the prayer for God's name to be glorified, God's kingdom to advance and triumph, and God's will to be accomplished on the earth the way it's happening in heaven. This means that God intends to use human prayers to accomplish His most ultimate and universal purposes. For example, Jesus tells us to pray for the workers that will be required to spread the gospel to all the nations. 'Pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest' (Matt. 9:38). Yet nothing is more certain than that the kingdom of God will triumph. Jesus said, 'I will build My church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it... this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come' (Matt. 16:18; 24:14). There is no uncertainty about the triumph of God. Nevertheless, in God's providence it depends on human prayer. This implies that prayer is not only a duty of man but a gift of God." [What Jesus Demands From The World by John Piper]