



PRAISE • PRAY • LIVE
...embracing the
CONSECRATED
LIFE

WEEK 2
FOR THE GLORY OF HIS NAME

Matthew 6:9: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name."

A. Right _____: "Our Father"

I am a child of _____ and deeply _____.

B. Right _____: "in heaven"

Our heavenly Father is _____ and we must come to Him in _____.

C. Right _____: "hallowed be your name"

My purpose is to bring _____ to God's name in every aspect of my
life: _____.



DAY 1

*Today's lesson involves an exercise that may take some pre-planning. You might want to look ahead to be prepared.

Prayer:

As you begin this new week of study, thank God for what He revealed to you about His character last week. Spend some time praising Him. Ask Him to speak as you study His word. And ask Him to develop within you a heart that is yielded to His rule and reign.

Memorize:

We will now move on to memorizing the second portion of the Lord's Prayer. Read it out loud. Mark it in your Bible. Write it down on a card that you can set out or carry with you.

"Your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." Matthew 6:10

Study:

1. This week we will be studying 5 parables related to the kingdom of heaven, deepening our understanding of what it means to pray and live out "Your kingdom come". Begin by reading the first of our parables, found in Matthew 13:33.

The kingdom of heaven is like _____.

2. As you walk through the process of the little project that follows, ask God to reveal His truth to you as you complete it. Pray that He would meet with you in this. You may want to do this activity with other members of your household present or you may simply want to do it in the quietness of time alone with God.

•You will need: 2 bowls, water, oil, food coloring (or any other colored liquid like vanilla, tea, or juice).

•Pour water into one bowl and oil into the other. You don't need much.

•Slowly add a bit of colored liquid to the water. Gently stir.

Describe how the color mixes with the water.

What is the end result?

•Now slowly add a bit of your colored liquid to the oil. Gently stir.

Describe how the color mixes with the oil.

And what is the end result?

3. Fill in the blank:

...like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour,
till it was _____ leavened.

4. Not one of us could say that we are always accepting of God's rule in our lives in "all" areas. However, by His grace, we can allow Him to infiltrate wider and deeper spaces as we respond to Him. In what area(s) of your life do you see yourself responding to God's word like colored water being poured into water? _____

5. In what area(s) of your life do you see yourself responding to God's word like colored water being poured into oil? _____

Confess your resistance to God's kingship in each area you identify. You may want to say out loud to Him, "I am not in charge of _____, but You are." Ask Him to show you how to soften your whole heart and trust that He is a loving and faithful king.

6. Read Psalm 138:1-2. Take some time now to pray and write out a response to the Lord about what He is showing you today.

DAY 2

Prayer:

Review the end of your homework from yesterday. Praise God for His grace to meet you right where you are, and for His desire to invade every aspect of your life. Pray that as you yield to God's reign in your life, you would have the strength to walk out His will.

Memorize:

Review Matthew 6:9 by writing it below:

Fill in the blanks with Matthew 6:10:

Your _____ come,
Your _____ be _____

And say aloud several times:

...on earth as it is in heaven.

Study:

1. Read Matthew 13:31-32.

The kingdom of heaven is like _____.

2. The kingdom of heaven arrived quite insignificantly (see Luke 2:7). It will one day commence with the very significant return of Christ (see Revelation 19:11-16). Look at Luke 17:20-21.

Where does the kingdom of God exist right now?

...in the _____ of _____ (v.21)

3. Until Christ returns, God is advancing His kingdom in the hearts and lives of those who follow Him; right here, right now. Read Colossians 1:15-20, a wonder-filled passage on the pre-eminence of Christ. After you read go back and count how many times is the word "all" used?

4. Think back over the exercise we did yesterday. Consider the passage in Colossians and God's use of "all" repeatedly. What does that tell you about how much of yourself God is asking you to yield to His kingship, to His rule, to His authority?

5. Something as tiny as a mustard seed is sometimes easy to ignore. However, for God's kingdom to come in our lives, even the most insignificant areas must be under His reign. Is there an area of your life that seems small but where you are allowing sin to reign rather than Christ? You may want to read Romans 6:12 and spend some time in prayer and reflection.

6. Read Romans 6:20-22. Even though it may seem insignificant, ask the Lord to show you...

How are you a slave to sin in that area? _____

What fruit are you getting from allowing sin to reign? _____

What will be the end result if you continue leaving this as it is _____

Conversely, if you take that part of your life (even though it looks as small as a mustard seed), what fruit will come when you allow Christ to rule and reign over it?

7. Make a plan now for continuing to allow God's kingdom to come in that area. What can you do today? What will you do tomorrow? _____

8. End today in prayer, responding to what God is teaching you. You may want to walk through the Colossians 1 passage, giving Him praise for the authority He holds. Ask Him for the will to let His kingdom come in you. Thank Him for His grace to touch, to transform, to reconcile to Himself even the smallest areas of your life.

DAY 3

Prayer:

Praise God that He works in the areas of your life that are seemingly insignificant. Thank Him that He can transform the parts of you that are small and weak with His strength and power. Pray again that His kingdom would reign in you.

Memorize:

Fill in Matthew 6:10:

Your _____,
Your _____ be _____
on _____ as it is in _____.

Study:

1. Read Matthew 13:44.

The kingdom of heaven is like _____.

2. The interesting thing about this little story is that the man simply found the treasure. He wasn't looking for it. He could have been walking through the field on a journey or possibly working in the field as a laborer. But when he found the treasure, what did he do?

3. It was typical in Jesus' time for people to hide their money and other valuables in the ground. It is assumed in this story that the owner of the treasure had passed away or been forced to leave the country because when the man goes to buy the field, the owner of the land sells it without taking the treasure with him. In that day, rabbinic law allowed the finder to keep such treasures when they were found so the man had no obligation to disclose his finding. Imagine you knew him. What might you think when you heard he was selling everything he had to buy one little field?

4. Yesterday we read in Colossians 3 about the preeminence of Christ. What word was used repeatedly to describe what Christ is over? _____

And what did the man in our parable sell?

_____ that he had

5. What did the man gain from selling his possessions and buying the field? Was it more than he possessed before? _____

6. Do you think the man looked around to see if anyone else was doing what he was doing before he went to gain the treasure? _____

7. Of course not! He had found a treasure and thought of nothing else. But those around him may not have understood. Read Matthew 7:13-14. Based on these verses, why do so few find life? _____

8. Surrender of our "all" can be hard, especially when it seems like no one else is doing it. However, the treasure we gain is life to us. Spend some time now re-reading the parable in Matthew 13:44. What was the man's emotional response to finding the treasure?

9. Read Romans 14:17. What treasures are we guaranteed through life in the kingdom?

10. How willing are you to gain those treasures even if it means surrender of something else you prize? _____

11. Go back to Matthew 7:13-14. Spend some time confessing the things that you treasure over the Lord; confess your desire to walk on the "easy way." Ask for His grace to strengthen you to surrender. And thank Him that His way always leads to righteousness, peace, joy, and life.

DAY 4

Prayer:

Praise God that He alone holds treasure beyond our imagination. Pray for a heart that wholly and joyfully is yielded to the work of His kingdom. Ask Him to speak to you now as you study.

Memorize:

Say Matthew 6:9 aloud from memory.

Can you say Matthew 6:10 from memory yet? Say it if you can.

Focus on the parts of either verse that are tripping you up. Read the verses again. Say them aloud. Write them out several times if you need to. Ask the Lord to plant His Word in your heart and cause it to take root within you.

Study:

1. Read Matthew 13:45-46.

The kingdom of heaven is like _____.

2. The text gives the indication that the merchant had devoted his life to the search for pearls. In the ancient world, pearls were life-threateningly difficult to acquire and were regarded as gems of the greatest value. The merchant obviously saw this one pearl as having greater value than anything he owned because he sold it all to get it.

In one word:

What is the merchant doing in verse 45? _____

What is the result of his action (46a)? _____

3. Read Matthew 6:25-33. How does anxiety present itself in your life?

4. Describe how letting worry reign in the above situation(s) is a reflection of not seeking God. To be systematic about it, walk through P.U.R.P.L.E. and determine where your breakdown is. For example, when worry threatens to take over your thoughts (and therefore rule over you instead of Christ), perhaps you are not *letting his word dwell in you richly* to transform your thoughts. _____

5. Going back to Romans 6:20-22 that we read on day 1, what fruit are you getting by allowing anxiety to reign over you? _____

6. The merchant gave his life to seeking diligently after a pearl of great price. His reward was that he found it. Read the following verses and write out what God is calling you to do.

1 Chronicles 28:9 _____

Zephaniah 2:3 _____

Matthew 6:33 _____

Colossians 3:1 _____

7. Now review the following verses and fill in what God promises as we seek Him.

1 Chronicles 28:9

If you _____ Him, He will be _____ by you...

Matthew 6:32

Your heavenly Father _____ that you _____ them...

8. How does seeking the Lord and considering His promises transform your thoughts to allow Him to reign over your heart and thoughts rather than anxiety or worry?

9. End today by praying Psalm 27:8. Respond to the Lord by praising Him, acknowledging what He is calling you to do, and asking for a heart that is wholly seeking after the prize of greatest value: Him alone.

DAY 5

Prayer:

Praise God that He does not keep Himself hidden from us, but is freely found by those who seek Him. Thank Him for the promises He provides that can free us from anxiety and worry. Ask now that His kingdom would spread to those around you, that their hearts and lives would be transformed by His work in them.

Memorize:

Write out the verses we have memorized so far, along with the reference:

Study:

1. Read Matthew 13:24-30.

The kingdom of heaven may be compared to _____

2. Describe how it came to be that there were both wheat and weeds in the field (v. 24-26).

3. The servants ask Jesus how the weeds grew up with the wheat (v.27). What does Jesus answer? (v. 28)

“An _____ has done this.”

4. The disciples ask Jesus for an explanation of this parable and he gives it in Matthew 13: 36-43. Read Genesis 3:1-7. How did it come to be that “weeds” first appeared in the world?

5. In the time between the sowing and the reaping, God has left the wheat and weeds to grow together. As a believer, you are wheat, sown by the gracious hand of your Father. But right around you there are weeds. In verse 41, Jesus describes weeds as two things. Let’s look at them in more detail.

- Weeds are: “causes of sin” (ESV)
the Greek is *skandalon*, which means a trap or a snare
also translated “stumbling blocks” (NAS)

- Weeds are also: "law-breakers" (ESV)
the Greek is *anomia*, which means without law
also translated "those who do evil" (NIV)

Carefully think through if there is someone in your life who seemingly operates without law around you. How does doing life with that person create a stumbling block for you that traps you in the moment? _____

6. Review what you have learned this week about the kingdom. How receptive is your heart to hear what God wants to teach you about that situation (think about the colored water, water, and oil)? _____

7. Describe how significant you think this situation is to your Father. _____

8. How willing are you to surrender and make changes in this situation in order for God to rule and reign over it? _____

9. How can you seek God diligently about this situation? _____

As you seek, you may clearly see how to walk out God's will in your situation, if not, we encourage you to seek wise, biblical counsel.

10. The kingdom of God is right here in the midst of a very messy world. God ordained it that His kingdom would advance in our hearts with the weeds growing right next to us. However, His promise is that one day, all causes of sin will be thrown out forever (Matt 13:41-42). Read Matthew 25:31-34 and let the wonder of God's eternal kingdom pour over you. Spend some time in prayer responding to God's word.