

New Testament Prayer

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Kingdom Living

The Gospel is about the Kingdom

- **Mt.3:2** – John the Baptist - Repent the kingdom is at hand
- **JESUS' PREACHING**
 - **Mt.4:17** – Jesus - Repent the kingdom is at hand
 - **Mt.4:23, 9:35** – The gospel of the Kingdom
 - **Mt.6:33** – Seek ye first the kingdom... and all these things...
 - *I seek first the kingdom of God* – WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
 - **Jn.3:3-6** – You must be born again

Kingdom Reality

- **KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS A SPIRITUAL REALITY – Lk.17:21**
 - It is based on the **BELIEFS OF YOUR HEART**
 - You live in it right now
 - Has nothing to do with after-life or going to Heaven
- **DO NOT BELIEVE THAT YOU MUST CHANGE**
 - IT'S A REJECTION OF WHAT YOU ARE AND HAVE NOW
 - **BELIEVE IN JESUS' FINISHED WORK, the Gospel**
 - Then you will not see the power manifested
 - **Rom.1:16** – Gospel the Power of God unto salvation
 - **1Co.4:20** – Kingdom is not words but power
 - **Rom.14:17** – Righteousness, peace and joy
- **BELIEVING NOW**
 - Walking by faith not sight – **2Cor.5:7**
 - Just shall live by faith – **Rom.1:17, Gal.3:11**
 - Blessed are those who have not seen yet believe – **Jn.20:25-30**
 - **Hab.2:2-4** – Write, believe and walk by it
 - **DON'T GIVE UP TOO SOON – Heb.10:35-38**
- **LIVING IN THE KINGDOM RIGHT NOW = Harmonize your beliefs with Kingdom Realities**
 - *I am a new creation*
 - *All God's promises are mine, I am qualified for God's blessings*
 - *My spirit is perfect, I am righteous*
 - *I am a child of God, I am loved and accepted*
 - *By His stripes I am healed*
 - *I am prosperous, as my soul prospers*
- **1The.5:15-18** – Rejoice, **PRAY CONTINUOUSLY**, give thanks

New Testament Prayer

- **IF JESUS HAS ALREADY DONE EVERYTHING FOR US HOW DO WE PRAY?**
 - Our questions reveal the level of our understanding
 - We should ask questions because they bring clarity
- **OT Pattern (and of many Christians)**
 - **Judges:** Every man did what was right in his eye – **Judg.17:6, 21:25**
 - **Pro.14:12, 16:25** – No all that seems right is good
 - **THE RECURRING CYCLE:** Get in trouble – Seek God – Get delivered – Backslide - Get in trouble
 - **Act.2:44, 4:32** - Historical books are not for doctrine, they are a report: This is not the pattern to follow
 - Believers divided all things they had –
 - ✦ it's not a doctrine to follow
 - ✦ This is why the church in Jerusalem was starving
 - ✦ It does not work today
- **GOD WANTS A RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU**
 - Why do you pray?

- If you had no needs, would you pray at all?
- How much time do you spend in prayer?
 - Worship
 - Praise
 - Meditation, reflection
 - Asking for things
 - Waiting on God
 - Praying in tongues
- Many pray to get things so that they no longer need to trust God
 - After the essentials, things do not make your life better
- **Jn.10:10** – Abundant life (zoe) is not getting things
 - The best you can have is a relationship with God
 - + **Jn.17:3** – Life is knowing God, not knowing about God
 - + **THE QUALITY OF OUR LIFE IS BASED ON THE QUALITY OF OUR RELATIONSHIPS**
 - Out of that all other is resolved – **Mt.6:33**
- Jesus came so that you may have a relationship with God, not just so that you can get God to do things for you

Questions to Consider

1. Please explain what you understand for kingdom living?
2. Why is our belief in Jesus' finished work essential for living by faith?
3. What does Hab.2:2-4 teach us about living by faith?
4. Why does remembering Heb.10:35-38 help our faith?
5. What does it mean to have a relationship with God?