

Key Verses

Matthew 6:9-13

Big Idea

Your Kingdom Come

Discussion Questions

- 1) How does the story of little Timmy's wish for unlimited pizza relate to our desires and prayers for something greater in life? How do we best function like Timmy's parents in redirecting our own desires and the desires of those who trust us enough to share such desires with us toward something more meaningful and significant?
- 2) Consider the insights we gain from the comparison between the early Christians' practice of praying the Lord's Prayer three times a day and our modern-day recitation of it once a week, at most. What are the potential benefits of incorporating more regular prayer practices, even repeating a particular prayer into daily routines? What are the dangers of doing that. Bringing the two questions together, what do the benefits and dangers suggest a healthy prayer life involves?
- 3) Reflect on the ways the Lord's Prayer can serve as a divine roadmap for aligning our thoughts, focusing our hearts, and directing our behavior towards God's kingdom. To what degree does your prayer life center on asking God to align you or doing something for you? While the latter is not wrong, what is the danger of a prayer life that never invites God to align us to Him?

- 4) In this question we want to reflect on the idea of Praying it Forward. Just as individuals can perpetuate acts of kindness and generosity through paying it forward, believers can actively contribute to the realization of God's kingdom on earth through praying it forward. How does the concept of praying it forward challenge our understanding of prayer as simply a passive activity? To answer this:
- a) Explore examples from Scripture and church history of individuals who prayed boldly and acted courageously to advance God's kingdom.
 - b) How were their prayers accompanied by tangible deeds and how did their faith-inspired actions make a difference?
- 5) Reflecting on the clash of kingdoms presented in the sermon, consider practical examples of how our personal kingdoms may come into conflict with God's kingdom. How can we ensure that our daily choices align with the values and priorities of God's kingdom?
- 6) Read Luke 3:12-14 noting how John's application of his kingdom message challenged people to do right with their finances. This is an uncomfortable topic for many in the church today. How can we cultivate financial integrity, faithful and generous stewardship, and ethical behavior in our daily lives?
- 7) Considering the global implications of God's kingdom, what do you think it looks like for a church to consider the church universal in the decisions it makes?

Notes
