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Pray in This Way: Part 2 – God’s Activity & You

Matthew 6:10

Introduction:

- Two extreme philosophies about prayer.
 1. Prayer is merely a p_____logical exercise.
 2. Prayer is a means to get God to a_____ how we want Him to.
- Last week:
 1. We learned that Jesus never meant the Lord’s Prayer to be repeated as a prayer in itself but that He meant it to be a topical g_____ in our private prayer time.
 2. We covered the first topic of praising God. How did you do this past week?
- Today we will learn that prayer is intimately connected with God’s a_____, and that it is all about His w_____ not ours, but at the same time that our prayers do make a difference.

Pray with expectation – *Your kingdom come*

- What is the kingdom of God?
 1. A kingdom in the strictest sense is the domain over which a k_____ reigns.
 - a. The Jewish people of Jesus’s day believed that God’s kingdom was purely political where the M_____ would reign as king over the world.
 - b. The Jewish people derived this understanding from Old Testament p_____.
 2. God’s revelation is progressive – in other words, as time goes on He r_____ more information that gives a better understanding. Jesus gave us that better understanding.
 - a. Matt 4:17 – Jesus preached “The kingdom of God is n_____”
 - b. Lk 17:21 – Jesus answered the Pharisees’ question about when God’s kingdom would come by saying, “The kingdom of God is in your m_____.”
 - c. Jn 18:36 – Jesus told Pilate, “My kingdom is not of this w_____.”
 3. God’s kingdom is realized in two ways:
 - a. Individually (Col 1:13) – you and I are transferred from the domain of darkness to God’s kingdom when we r_____ Jesus as king over our lives.

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- b. Universally (I Cor 15:24) – at Christ’s second coming, He will abolish all earthly p_____ and will put an end to sin and death for the believer.

●When we pray for God’s kingdom to come:

1. We are praying for God to s_____ people
 - a. Are you praying for the lost around you?
 - b. Are you praying for God to save fellow-Americans? (USA is the _____ most unreached country of the world)
2. Our prayers do make a difference
 - a. The apostle Paul prayed for his fellow-J_____ to be saved (Rom 10:1)
 - b. Jesus commanded us to pray for God to send more w_____ to bring His harvest of salvation in (Lk 10:2).

●God’s promise concerning His kingdom

1. Jesus will be the Savior of the w_____ in the sense that He will save people from every tribe, tongue, nation, and class (Rev 5:9,10)
2. Once the gospel is preached to all the nations (e_____ groups), Jesus will set up His universal kingdom and put an end to sin and death for the believer (Matt 24:14).

●Pray, expecting God to save the lost around you and the lost all over the world!

Pray for utilization – *Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven*

●What does Jesus mean by God’s will?

1. He does not mean God’s sovereign p_____ (this would require a different Greek word – e.g. Acts 2:23)
2. He does mean God’s d_____ or wish.

●Is God’s will (what He wants) always done?

1. In heaven? _____
2. On earth? _____ (see I Thess 5:17; Eph 5:25,33; Eph 6:1)

●We need to pray for God’s will to be done:

1. In our own life f_____
 - a. Is there something you know God wants from you but you are resisting? S_____ yourself to God’s will.
 - b. Is there something you are wanting from God but are not sure that it is His will? - pray as Jesus did, *not _____ will but Your will be done.*

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2. God uses the one whose will is lined up with His will to accomplish His will on the earth
 - a. 2 Tim 2:21 – if we cleanse ourselves from sin we will be u_____ to the Lord in His work.
 - b. 2 Chronicles 16:9 – God is searching the whole earth for hearts that are c_____ His.

● How does God use us to accomplish His will on the earth? – He d_____

1. He may use you to e_____ another believer
2. He may use you to t_____ someone
3. He may use you to tell part of the g_____ story to an unbeliever.
4. He may use you to bring a person to follow C_____
5. He may use you without you k_____
6. You may feel inadequate, but when God works through you, the work He does is adequate.

Conclusion - This week apply Jesus's teaching in your private prayers:

- Start by praising Him for who He is and what He's done (*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name*).
- Pray for God to save the lost around you, the lost in this country, and the lost across the world with the expectation that He will do it (*Thy kingdom come*)
- Pray for God's will to be done in your life so that He can accomplish His will on this earth in you and through you (*Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven*).