

Kingdom Prayers

What are kingdom prayers?

Kingdom prayers are those that prioritize God's kingdom and love for him and others. Jesus' life was marked with seeking God's kingdom above all, and he taught us to do the same. That includes love first for God and secondly for our neighbors as defined by the parable of the good Samaritan. These verses provide the basis of kingdom prayers:

- **MATTHEW 6:9B-10 (NIV)**

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

- **MATTHEW 6:33 (NIV)**

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

- **MATTHEW 26:39 (NIV)**

My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.

- **MARK 12:28-31 (NIV)**

One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?"

"The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

How do we pray kingdom prayers?

We focus our prayers on the bigger issues of the kingdom, knowing that experiencing the coming of God's kingdom in people's lives is always his will. From the verses above, we pray that we and others seek God's kingdom and no other one, and we pray to love God more and to receive wisdom to act in ways that express love to our neighbors. Too often we pray selfishly (James 4:1-3) rather than sacrificially, typically focusing on health, success, safety and an easy

life instead of asking God to do a spiritual work in our own lives and hearts as well as in the lives and hearts of others.

Examples of Kingdom Prayers Based on Scriptures

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Colossians 1:9-12: Lord, fill ____ with the knowledge of your will that she/I may walk worthy.

Philippians 1:9-11: Lord, may ____'s love keep on growing in knowledge and discernment so that he/I can approve what is best and can be pure and blameless before Christ, filled with the fruit of his righteousness.

WHEN THERE ARE HARDSHIPS AND SUFFERING

James 1:2-4,12: God, use this difficulty to produce perseverance, maturity and blessing in ____.

Romans 8:28-29: May ____ trust that you are at work in the midst of these difficulties for her/my good, not for her/my destruction. Use this time to mold ____ more into the image of Jesus.

Ephesians 1:17-21: Give ____ wisdom and the revelation of who you are in the midst of this difficult time.

Colossians 3:1-4: Give ____ the grace to set his/my mind on the things above rather than the circumstances.

WHEN PRAYERS AREN'T BEING ANSWERED

James 1:17; 4:3: God, help ____ trust that you give good gifts, realizing that they are better than those that she/I is seeking.

WHEN DEALING WITH A DIFFICULT OR ANTAGONISTIC BELIEVER

Ephesians 4:1-3: May _____ walk worthy and show forth humility, gentleness, patience, love and unity with her/my fellow believer.

WHEN YOU DEAL WITH UNBELIEVERS

Matthew 5:43-48; Lord, give me your love for _____ and show me how to pray for him.

2 Timothy 2:23-26: Help me refuse to engage in foolish arguments but be loving, kind and gentle in speaking truth to ____ who doesn't know you.

FOR SOMEONE WITH MATERIAL NEEDS

Matthew 6:33-34: God, draw _____ to seek first your kingdom in her/my life.

GUIDANCE

James 1:5: Lord, turn ____'s heart to seek you for the wisdom needed in this situation.

As you read the Bible, look for verses that you can pray like this.