



*Lord's Prayer: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one. For the kingdom and the power and the glory are yours forever. Amen*

### **Monday: The Ruler of Your Kingdom Come:**

Throughout history and scripture, there are plenty of examples of kings who have let power go to their heads. Instead of looking out for the best interest of their people, they looked out for their own desires. In order for their desires to be met, they have to take money, freedom, and power. Scripture tells us that the kingdom of God has a different type of king. Jesus doesn't take from us, rather he gives. James says that he is the giver of every perfect gift. Paul reminds us in the passage below that he was willing to sacrifice all the perfectness of heaven for our sake. Not only that, he gave his life and faced the wrath of God so that all who believe can spend eternity with Him in the consummated kingdom (new heavens and earth).

*Philippians 2:5–11 "5 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, 7 but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death— even death on a cross! 9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."*

**How does knowing that the Ruler of the Kingdom you are praying for in the Lord's Prayer is like this? Spend some time thanking God for being this type of king.**

This week, we will spend time asking God make his kingdom to come and be more present in different aspects of our life. In teaching us to pray "your kingdom come," Jesus was first and foremost teaching us to petition our heavenly Father to expand his rule over the territory of our hearts. It is an invitation to embrace the kingdom of Christ in every aspect of our lives.

**What are some specific ways that God's Kingdom could be come more present in your life today? What are some areas that you could submit to his will more (your pursuits, your pleasures, your priorities, things your relationships, etc.). Pray for these things.**

## **Tuesday: The People of Your Kingdom Come:**

When we hear the glad news that Christ is King, the thing to do is submit to his rule. When we repent for our sins and believe in Jesus Christ, God establishes his rule in our hearts. This is part of what Jesus meant when he said “the kingdom of God is within you” (Luke 17:21).

Likewise, Colossians 1:13-14 reminds us we enter into the Kingdom of God through the work of Jesus Christ. Paul writes that God, the Father “*13 has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.*”

**How do these passages give you peace about your future with God?**

## **Heidelberg Catechism Q & A 123**

**Q. What does the second petition mean?**

A. “Your kingdom come” means:  
Rule us by your Word and Spirit in such a way that more and more we submit to you.<sup>1</sup>  
Preserve your church and make it grow.<sup>2</sup>  
Destroy the devil’s work; destroy every force which revolts against you and every conspiracy against your holy Word.<sup>3</sup>  
Do this until your kingdom fully comes, when you will be all in all.<sup>4</sup>  
1 Ps. 119:5, 105; 143:10; Matt. 6:33  
2 Ps. 122:6-9; Matt. 16:18; Acts 2:42-47  
3 Rom. 16:20; 1 John 3:8  
4 Rom. 8:22-23; 1 Cor. 15:28; Rev. 22:17, 20

**What are some specific ways that God’s Kingdom could be come more present in your relationships today? What are some areas that you could demonstrate the love that Christ showed you to others today?**

## **Wednesday: The Ways of the Kingdom of God.**

In *The Prayer of Our Lord*, Philip Graham Ryken writes “A king has the right to rule his kingdom any way he likes, and God’s kingdom is a kingdom of the heart. It is not a territory. It is not a party politic. It is not a nation-state with geographic borders. The kingdom of God is simply the rule of God. When we pray for God’s kingdom to come, we are asking God to achieve his purpose of reigning as King in the hearts, minds, and wills of his loyal subjects.’

When we pray to have His kingdom come, we are not only praying for a very good and real future event, we’re praying that He’ll allow us to see His kingdom and pursue it today. We’re telling Him we want Him to use whatever methods, circumstances, or people necessary to develop in us His righteousness, His peace, and His joy—right here and right now.

John Calvin said it is the task of the church to make the invisible kingdom visible. We do that by living in such a way that we bear witness to the reality of the kingship of Christ in our jobs, our families, our schools, and even our checkbooks, because God in Christ is King over every one of these spheres of life. The only way the kingdom of God is going to be manifest in this world

before Christ comes is if we manifest it by the way we live as citizens of heaven and subjects of the King.

One of the ways that we can practically live out this request of God to make His kingdom come is to repent to His kingdom and away from everything that's not under His rulership.

**Ask God to show you how you have sinned and not shown His kingdom of God as visible as it could be in your life. Spend some time confessing those things to Him.**

**What are some specific ways that CrossWay Church could display God's Kingdom more clearly today? Spend some time praying for that God would use our church to reveal God's kingdom to the people in our communities and draw people into His kingdom through us.**

#### **Thursday: Lord May Your Kingdom Come through the belief of new believers**

Furthermore, to pray "your kingdom come" is to pray that God would use our witness for the expansion of His kingdom. C.S. Lewis describes this world as "enemy occupied territory" and Christianity as "the story of how the rightful king has landed in disguise and is calling us all to take part in a great campaign of sabotage."

When Jesus told His followers to pray, "Your kingdom come," He was making them participants in His own mission to spread the reign of God on this planet so that it might reflect the way God's reign is established in heaven to this day.

When we pray, "Your kingdom come," we are praying for the continued extension of God's reign on earth. We are praying for God to convert the hearts of His enemies, bringing them to confess Jesus as Lord. We are praying that He puts those who refuse to submit beneath His feet (Ps. 110).

**We all have people in our life who do not know Jesus as their Savior. They are not currently part of God's kingdom. Who are some people that desire to see Christ reveal Himself to them as their King and Savior and draw them to faith in Him? Spend some time praying for them.**

**Pray that God could give you opportunities to speak God's grace into their lives.**

**Spend some time praying for that the missionaries and evangelist throughout the world. Pray that God would use them to draw them to faith in Him**

### **Friday: Lord May Your Final Consummated Kingdom Come!**

Finally, to pray "your kingdom come" is to recognize that Christ has already won the war, but the reality of his reign is not yet fully realized. Theologians often like to state that we currently live in the already / not yet tension of the kingdom of God.

However, Jesus teaches His disciples to pray that the perfections of heaven, God's realm, would come to earth in real time and space. The resurrection of Jesus, points us to the inauguration of a new final and consummated kingdom that occurs when Jesus comes back again to judge the living and the dead. If we put our faith in Christ, we will experience perfect Shalom of the Garden. This means sin and death do not have the last word. We will have a perfect relationship with God and others in heaven. Our lives will be more fulfilling and complete than we can ever imagine. Here is one way that Bible describes this glorious kingdom.

*Revelations 21:3–5: And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 4 He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." 5 He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!"*

**What do you envision heaven to be like? What are some things you look forward to in heaven? Spend some time in prayer thanking God that he will come again to make all things new.**

**Pray that God's final kingdom will come quickly and that all the pain and sorrow of this life will fade away.**

#### **What is the Heidelberg Catechism?**

This document was written in 1563. Its name is derived from the city in which it was written. It is a remarkably warm-hearted and personalized confession of faith that was created to teach the basic truths of the Christian faith through a series of Questions and Answers. It is a document that is still used by Reformed churches to the present day.

#### **Why is it included in the prayer guide?**

The catechism saw value in teaching the Lord's prayer to new Christians and explain its content further. We include it in this prayer guide to give us a wider historical perspective. We also think that its answers are still applicable and challenging today.