

PRAYING LIKE JESUS (Part 3)
Matthew 7:21-27

I. HALLOWED BE THY NAME

- A. Remember Who You Are Talking to.
 - 1. “Put off your shoes from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground” (Exodus 3:5).
 - 2. “Hallow” means respect and reverence.

- B. Reveal Yourself to Me.
 - 1. “Hallow” also means, “Reveal yourself to me, O God.”
 - 2. God reveals himself in at least four ways: creation, people, Jesus Christ, and prayer.

II. THY KINGDOM COME

- A. We’re Taking a Vow.
 - 1. We’re not asking God for anything. We’re pledging our willingness to allow God’s kingdom to be born in us.
 - 2. Jesus said, “The kingdom of God is like ...” a seed, yeast, a hidden treasure, and a pearl of great price.
 - 3. Notice that God taught his disciples to seek God’s kingdom and will before making their petitions and requests.

- B. The Upside-Down Kingdom.
 - 1. The kingdom of God points to an inverted way of life.
 - 2. In this kingdom, the first shall be last and the last first, the exalted will be humbled and the humbled will be exalted.

III. THY WILL BE DONE

- A. Oops! I’m Not Sure About This One.
 - 1. When I say “the will of God,” what does that bring to your mind?
 - 2. Do we really want to know the will of God for our lives?

- B. How Can We Know the Will of God?
 - 1. Many will never know!
 - 2. We must learn to listen.
 - a. When we talk to God we only say something we already know. When we listen, we learn what God knows.
 - b. We must believe that whatever God does or wants to do is good.

Prayer Concerns: Members – Margaret Baker, Burney Biesel, Jeanette Boatright, Nancycathryn Crane, Dr. Gordon Freeman, Fay McDowell ... Friends – Bobby Borden, Pat Bryan, Bill Dean, Dyole Davis, Robert Lee, Tina Gatlin, Joanna Grathwell, Kathy Greer, Jackson Ingram, Dillon LaRue, Eddie Mae Schaeffer, Violet Stout, Mike Thompson ...

PASTORAL PRAYER

Almighty God, we bow in humility before you. As a son honors his father, so we come to honor you. As a daughter respects her mother, so we respect how you have blessed us in the past and how you guide us into the future. There has never been a time when you have not been with us.

It's easy to remember, honor and respect you, O God, in times of crisis. During season of crisis everything, absolutely everything, is important and significant. Life itself is on the line. No word is casual, no action meaningless. And almost always our relationship with you is at the very center of our lives. We can't wait to worship you. We can't wait to lift our lives in prayer before you.

But during the humdrum times, when things are dull and routine and boring, it's easy for us to crowd you out of our lives. We focus primarily on ourselves and treat worship as a hobby or a diversion and manage our lives for our own convenience and completely disregard what you have to say to us.

Wake us up. As we remember the crisis of the cross, let us be reminded that our salvation was purchased at a price and that there is a price to pay for our discipleship. As the communion table is placed at the center of the chancel of our church, let us place you at the center of our lives. This is our prayer in the name of the One who died so we might live, Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray ...

THE LORD'S PRAYER: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

MATTHEW 7:21-27

“Not every one who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you evildoers.’”

“Every one then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house upon the rock; and the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat upon that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And every one who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house upon the sand; and the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell; and great was the fall of it.”

SERMON SCHEDULE

In the Sanctuary:

August 12	<i>Praying Like Jesus (Part 4)</i> “Give...Forgive...Lead”	Matthew 18:21-35
August 19	<i>What's Worth Wanting?</i>	Luke 12:13-21
August 26	<i>True North Principles</i>	Luke 12:32-40

On the Radio (1450 AM):

August 12	<i>You Can't Take It with You</i>	James 5:1-6
August 19	<i>We Interrupt This Broadcast</i>	James 5:7-12
August 26	<i>Tell Me Where It Hurts</i>	James 5:13-20