



SERIES: November – December – Walking with Jesus

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Thursday, 12/02/2021

Scripture: Matthew 6:10

TITLE: Who's Really in Charge?

Knowing how to pray can feel like knowing how to put together a car engine. It can feel overwhelming. It can feel fruitless. It can be confusing. But it doesn't have to be. Jesus prayed or communed with His Father all the time. He wants the same thing for us today.

That's why we're walking with Jesus. He wants to help us solve this issue of prayer. And so he taught the disciples how to pray. Today we want to continue listening to His guidance in Matthew 6:10 (CSB). Jesus said, pray this way: **"Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."**

It is true that right now Jesus is ruling at the right hand of God. He sits on the throne and is King of Kings and Lord of Lords – forever and always. Yet we are to pray desiring that His kingdom will come.

What else needs to happen if He already is reigning in Heaven? He needs to usher in His physical reign on earth. It is the immediate and beginning of the millennial kingdom – His thousand-year reign on earth.

Revelation 22:20 Jesus says, "Yes, I am coming quickly." And then John says, "Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!" So when praying we should be like John asking for Jesus to come quickly!

But there's also two other ways we can pray so His kingdom will come. We can pray for the conversion of sinners. We should pray that people who are far from God will come to know Him as Savior and Lord.

And then there's a third way to pray for His kingdom to come. It's the prayer for our faithfulness and obedience in following Christ.

Is King Jesus a little king or big king in your life? To have a kingdom, you must have a king! So is Jesus a little king or a big king. He is our ultimate authority. Do you believe that?

One way you can tell is if you take Jesus' words seriously in Mark 8:34 "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me"? Are you following Him? Are you dying to yourself?

Jesus then says, "Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven." There is no doubt His sovereign will is carried out both in heaven and on earth. That's a guaranteed answered prayer – forever and always. So that's not what Jesus was getting at.

I believe what Jesus was teaching was submission to His Kingship resulting in our obedience. Why? The angels do not struggle with sin. There is no battle of the flesh and Spirit in Heaven. But there is down here.

That's why this is my challenge for you today: Pray for the strength to submit to and obey King Jesus.

We all need to pray that we will bow our knees in daily submission to King Jesus. We need to daily be praying for the Spirit-driven ability to die to ourselves and obey our Savior and King. In all we pray, we should pray, "not my will, but your will." We are to be praying "not my will, King Jesus, but your will."

Jesus said, "Pray *this* way." I will. I pray you will too.