

This, then, is how you should pray: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." Matthew 6:9-10 (NIV)

Kingdom Assumptions

- Apparently it's possible for God's will not to be done
- It's God's will that we experience a little bit of heaven on earth now
- God's kingdom culture is so radically different than American or worldly culture, that we can expect some culture shock

3 WAYS OUR KINGDOM IS DIFFERENT THAN THE CULTURE OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD

1. IN OUR CULTURE IT IS EXPECTED THAT WE LOVE OUR FRIENDS, IN KINGDOM CULTURE IT IS EXPECTED THAT WE LOVE OUR ENEMIES

You have heard that it was said, "Love your neighbor and hate your enemy." But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. Matthew 5:43-45 (NIV)

Do not hate a fellow Israelite in your heart... Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord. Leviticus 19:17-18 (NIV)

When a foreigner resides among you in your land, do not mistreat them. The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt. I am the Lord your God. Leviticus 19:33-34 (NIV)

Do not gloat when your enemy falls; when they stumble, do not let your heart rejoice, or the Lord will see and disapprove and turn his wrath away from them. Proverbs 24:17-18 (NIV)

2. IN OUR CULTURE ONLY THE ACTIONS MATTER, IN THE KINGDOM CULTURE EVEN THE INTENT MATTERS

You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, "You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment." But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister, will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to a brother or sister, "Raca," is answerable to the court. And anyone who says, "You fool!" will be in danger of the fire of hell. Matthew 5:21-22 (NIV)

Two questions to help you discern whether your anger is righteous or unrighteous anger:

- Why am I angry?
- How am I acting because of my anger?

3. IN OUR CULTURE EVERYBODY IS TRYING TO GET TO A BETTER PLACE, IN THE KINGDOM CULTURE WE ARE TRYING TO MAKE OUR CURRENT PLACE BETTER

You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world...let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:13-16 (NIV)

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this. Isaiah 9:6-7 (ESV)

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.