

Wisdom Not Worry
Friday, June 26, 2020

“For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.”

How we need to note carefully the conclusion of the prayer Jesus taught us. As it began, so it ends. The prayer begins, “Hallowed be your name” and ends with “For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.” Jesus intended prayer, indeed, the whole of our lives to be for His glory. Why do we ask for God to meet our daily needs? So His faithful, generous provision would be shown. Why do we pray He pardon our sins? So His glorious grace would shine through us. Why do we seek His protection from the enemy? So His magnificent power above every power would be on full display. Why do we pray? For the glory of God. How should we pray? For the glory of God.

Imagine how this could transform our prayers. Instead of praying, “Lord, please change my circumstance, meet this or that need, or help me in one or another situation” we would pray, “Lord, I ask you to do whatever you want to do, however you want to do it so long as your glory is magnified through me. If that means four more months of quarantine, a diagnosis of dementia, continued strife in my home, reduced hours or unemployment, so be it. Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory!”

Here’s a guarantee. This kind of prayer will always be answered because this kind of prayer is in accordance with His will. The Spirit promises, “This is the confidence we have in approaching God: That if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us”(1 John 5:14).

This is not only how Jesus teaches us to pray, it’s how He prayed – “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me. Yet not as I will, but as you will...My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name!” (Matthew 26:39, John 12:17-18). May our prayers be less about getting and more about giving Him the glory His is due. When His glory is our goal, His joy is our gain.

Grateful,
Pastor Ben