TEACH US TO PRAY

"Your Kingdom come; Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" ... Matthew 6:10

This part of the Lord's Prayer illustrates our praying God's priorities while praying over our own priorities. God's priorities are "His kingdom and His will".

Priorities for those married are:

- 1. Relationship with God
- 2. Relationship with mate
- 3. Relationship with children
- 4. Relationship with extended family
- 5. Relationship with church family
- 6. Our nation

Priorities for the unmarried and those living at home are:

- 1. Relationship with God
- 2. Relationship with parents
- 3. Relationship with siblings
- 4. Relationship with extended family
- 5. Relationship with church family
- 6. Our nation.

In each priority we pray God's priority – "His kingdom come, and His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven."

Here are some truths and scriptures to pray to authorize God's reign in your life and in the lives of those you love. Pray through each priority, allowing the Holy Spirit to lead you for each person for whom you are praying. People and priorities are dynamic and alive, and always in flux. The Holy Spirit, as well as obvious needs and circumstances, will direct you as to how to pray for these people.

Example: One member of your family may need favor, while the other may need a healing. Someone may be in a struggle, while another needs a revelation of God. Someone may require extra prayer while another only requires thanksgiving. The Holy Spirit will help you with this—that is His job. (John 14:16,17, John 16:13,14)

What is the kingdom of God?

"...for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteous-ness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit." (Romans 14:17)

- Pray May Your kingdom righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit – be in my life.
- **Pray** Not my kingdom, but Your kingdom; not my will but Your will be done.
- Pray I commit this day to You; all that I do, let it be in Your will. I commit all to You this day (appointments, tests, opportunities) to You this day be Lord over my life.
- Pray "Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Your name. The righteous shall surround me, for You shall deal bountifully with me." Psalm 142:7
- Pray "Grace to you and peace from God my Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." (Romans 1:7) This blessing is found at the beginning of all of Paul's Epistles.
- Pray Paul's Revelation Prayers:
 - 1. Ephesians 1:15-21 "Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are

the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which he worked in Christ when he raised Him from the dead and seated him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come."

2. Ephesians 3:14-21 "For his reason I bow my knees to the Father of our lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height - to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him

be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever, Amen".

- 3. Colossians 1:9-12 "For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light".
- **Pray** for particular things regarding the person for whom you are praying that concerns them at present: health, finances, projects, tests, work of grace, renewal.
- **Pray** for blessing give those for whom you are praying every good thing you can think of in Christ: favor, peace, joy, blessing, hope, the desires of their heart fulfilled.

Praying your priorities as God's priorities is a dynamic process. The Holy Spirit will use this time of prayer to

release His kingdom and His will into your life and family. You will see God's kingdom and His will translated from Heaven into your everyday living.

If we will pray our priorities, we will live our priorities. Prayer preceeds God's coming.