

Lenten Small Group Study Guide

TOGETHER WE PRAY

“They kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven”

WEEK 2: FEB 25 – MAR 2

CONNECT (15 MIN)

WELCOME

- Welcome to week 2 of Lent!
- Recite The Lord's Prayer as a group

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. 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 6:9-13

THIS WEEK'S BIBLE VERSE REFERENCES:

LUKE 22:41-42

He withdrew about a stone's throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed, "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done."

LUKE 17:20-21

Some Pharisees asked Jesus when the Kingdom of God would come. His answer was, "The Kingdom of God does not come in such a way as to be seen. No one will say, 'Look, here it is!' or, 'There it is!'; because the Kingdom of God is within you."

CULTIVATE (5 MIN) - WATCH OR LISTEN TO VIDEO

Pastor Rob has prepared our video this week. Click on the link below to hear his message before you begin your discuss.

stlukesumc.com/lentweek2

GROUP VALUES: It's important that you agree on the values you want to have in your group, such as openness, authenticity, and confidentiality. Honoring these values together creates a safe and healthy group environment.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (35 MIN)

- What does the expression “Kingdom of God” mean to you?
- In the sermon we heard that the Kingdom of God is simply the way life looks when God’s ways are in effect. What does that mean to you? What do you believe the world looks like when God’s ways are in effect?
- Consider the idea that everything is spiritual to God. How does this resonate with your life and faith?
- Jesus prays a bold prayer: “Not my will but God’s will be done.” Is that ever hard to pray? Why? Have you ever found yourself praying that prayer yourself?
- What does it look like to do the will of God? (Remember, it doesn’t have to be big. God uses little acts like the bus driver buying pajamas for a student)
- Think about the illustration of Refugia Faith. Are there places you need to practice such faith—trusting in God to work even if you don’t see it? How can you be a “refugia,” a place of shelter that help preserve life in harsh conditions?

CHANGE THE WORLD - (5 MIN)

“We miss the point if we make doing the will of God so extreme as to mean being literally crucified on the cross. If that were the case hardly any of us would be called to do the will of God. But we are all called “to take up a cross daily.” We are called to die to self. Everyday, in some way, usually simple, ordinary ways like paying attention to someone we see regularly, and step aside from our own concerns and agendas we are called to see what we can do for another. This is what it looks like to give our lives away.

What might that look like for you? How can you pay attention to the needs of others around you? Is God troubling your spirit about some cause or need in the world saying, “I want you to be an answer to this problem.” What does it look like for God to make his kingdom visible in your life?”
~Rob Fuquay

PRAYER REQUESTS

CLOSING PRAYER:

Learning to pray is an important part of our Christian journey. You or a participant can prepare something ahead of time or just pray what is on your heart. Think of it as having a conversation with someone. If you are still a little unsure, look at a Psalm to read for inspiration to write your own prayer.