

Thornbury Baptist Church
Small Group Discussion Questions

Talk Date: June 1st 2025

Talk title: Jesus on Prayer – Your Kingdom come...

Passage: Matthew 6: 10

Speaker: Paul Ferguson

Discussion Questions

- Jesus taught, demonstrated and told stories about the Kingdom of God – this was his big subject. Paul referred to Lesslie Newbigin’s account of the Church’s job to be a sign, instrument and foretaste of the Kingdom of God
 - Are we a Christ-centred **sign** of hope? As a church community we want to be Christ-centred and outward-looking—making Jesus known through the way we live. How might your life, and our church community, point others to the reign of Jesus—not just in words but in how we live, love, and relate?
 - Where have you experienced a Spirit-led **foretaste** of heaven? Our desire, as a church, is to be a Spirit-led and caring community where people *experience* the presence and goodness of God. Can you share a time when our community—or another—felt like a glimpse of God’s kingdom: full of peace, joy, or healing?
 - How are we, as a church, an **instrument** of God’s kingdom in Thornbury? Mission is another core value for us as church. Which of our ministries or partnerships do you see revealing God’s love and justice—and what more might the Spirit be prompting us to do? And what does it mean for group members to be ‘instruments’ of God’s kingdom on their frontlines?
- How prayerful—and risky—is your “kingdom come” prayer? Praying “Let *Your* kingdom come” (and not ‘Let *My* kingdom come’!) can disrupt our comfort and re-order our priorities. How does this feel? Are you aware of areas of life where you need to align your life more fully with God’s purposes?
- Are we using our blessings for others—or just for ourselves? God blessed Abraham (Gen 12) so that all nations might be blessed. How might we better use our time, gifts, and resources to serve others beyond our church family?
- What does it mean to follow a crucified King in today’s world? The early Church Father Origen described Jesus as *the Kingdom in person.*” If the kingdom of God

looks like Jesus, the model of self-giving sacrificial love, consider how we can reflect His character in how we lead, influence, and serve on our frontlines whether in our homes, work, and church? Perhaps give some examples for your Frontlines?

Takeaway

What is the main thing each person is taking away from this discussion?

All talks are recorded and may be viewed on TBC's YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCM1OwaJ4eSICosAjl9Ofzjw>