



Sharing

Elijah Prayer Discipleship School

Becoming an instrument of prayer

Building Fathers House

A Dwelling Place for God by the Spirit

www.buildingfathershouse.org

(Discipleship=doing the will of God walking in submission of the authority of God so that you can become an instrument of authority)

Workshop no. 6 : “Thou Kingdom come” – purpose of prayer.

Purpose of workshop : To look into the secret of “Thou Kingdom come” in our prayer-life.

Intended Goal: To understand the secret behind the power of prayer as we acknowledge the Kingdom of God in a lifestyle of prayer.

Scripture readings :

“**Thy kingdom come.** Thy will be done, as in heaven, so on earth.” Mathews 6:10

Word: basileia. Pronounc: bas-il-i'-ah

Strong: #G932

Orig: from 935; properly, royalty, i.e. (abstractly) **rule**, or (concretely) **a realm (literally or figuratively):--kingdom, + reign.**

1) royal power, kingship, dominion, rule

1a) not to be confused with an actual kingdom but rather the **right or authority to rule over a kingdom.**

1b) of the royal power of Jesus as the triumphant Messiah

1c) of the royal power and dignity conferred on Christians in the Messiah's kingdom

2) a kingdom, the **territory subject to the rule of a king.**

3) used in the N.T. to refer to the reign of the Messiah

“**But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness;** and all these things shall be added unto you”. Mathews 6:33

“For I say unto you, that **except your righteousness shall exceed [the righteousness] of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no wise enter into the kingdom of heaven**”. Mathews 5:20

“Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, **except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.**” John 3:3

“Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, **except a man be born of water and [of] the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God**”. John 3:5

“But the **natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God**: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know [them], **because they are spiritually discerned**”. 1Corinthians 2:14

“But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, **then the kingdom of God is come unto you.**” Mathews 12:28

“And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, **than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God**”. Mathews 19:24

Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?

“Therefore say I unto you, **The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof.** And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: **but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder**”. Mathews 21:42-44

“Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, **preaching the gospel of the Kingdom of God,** And saying, The time is fulfilled, and **the Kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel**”. Mark 1:15

“And he said unto them, **Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God:** but unto them that are without, all [these] things are done in parables”: Mark 4:11

“And he answered and said unto them, **Unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven,** but to them it is not given”. Mathews 13:11

“And he said, **Whereunto shall we liken the kingdom of God?** or with what comparison shall we compare it? [It is] like a grain of mustard seed, which, when it is sown in the earth, is less than all the seeds that be in the earth: **But when it is sown, it groweth up, and becometh greater than all herbs, and shooteth out great branches; so that the fowls of the air may lodge under the shadow of it.**” Mark 4:30-32 sowing the incorruptible seed of the promises of God's Word. Jesus explained the Kingdom is like a seed – here He said like a mustard seed. He also used the mustard seed in likeness of faith. Faith = The Kingdom inheritance, that which lives within us. (read the seed of potential)

“Verily I say unto you, **Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein**”. Mark 10:15

“And the disciples were astonished at his words. But Jesus answereth again, and saith unto them, Children, **how hard is it for them that trust in riches to enter into the kingdom of God!**” Mark 10:24

“And he said unto them, **I must preach the kingdom of God** to other cities also: **for therefore am I sent.**” Luke 4:43

“And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said, **Blessed [be ye] poor: for yours is the kingdom of God.**” Luke 6:20

“For I say unto you, Among those that are born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist: **but he that is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he**”. Luke 7:28

“And it came to pass afterward, that he went throughout every city and village, **preaching and shewing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God:** and the twelve [were] with him”, Luke 8:1

“And he said, **Unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God:** but to others in parables; **that seeing they might not see,** and hearing they might not understand”. Luke 8:10

“And he sent them to preach the **kingdom of God, and to heal the sick.**” Luke 9:2

“And Jesus said unto him, **No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.**” Luke 9:62

“**But rather seek ye the kingdom of God;** and all these things shall be added unto you”. Luke 12:31

“And again he said, **Whereunto shall I liken the kingdom of God? It is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.** And he went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem. Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that be saved? And he said unto them, **Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.** When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are: Then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets. **But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all [ye] workers of iniquity.** There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you [yourselves] thrust out. And they shall come from the east, and [from] the west, and from the north, and [from] the south, and shall sit down in the kingdom of God. And, behold, there are last which shall be first, and there are first which shall be last”. Luke 13:20-30

“The law and the prophets [were] until John: **from that time the gospel of the kingdom of God is preached,** and **every man entereth violently** into it. But it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away, than for one tittle of the law to fall”. Luke 16:16-17

“for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, **but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit**”. Romans 14:17

“For the **kingdom of God is not in word,** but in power”. 1Corinthians 4:20

Food for thought :

When we say “**Thy Kingdom come**” we are acknowledging the existence of a King and His Kingdom. It is an invitation, were we are asking the **King to establish His Kingdom, meaning to be enthroned and to rule over us according to His righteousness and justice** as we willingly submit unto the King and His Kingdom.

When Jesus explained to His disciples He said “**seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness**” and **all these things that you seek shall be added unto you. The key in receiving is not only in asking but in seeking the Kingdom of God, for once we have entered into the Kingdom we live in the righteousness and justice of the King, all that we need will be added, because of the righteousness of the His Kingdom. As Jesus came to show us “And he said unto them, I must preach the kingdom of God to other cities also: for therefore am I sent.” Luke 4:43** Jesus came to declare unto us the good news concerning the Kingdom of God. The message is thus

that the Kingdom of God is the gospel, the good news as manifested through Christ Jesus.

In acknowledging that Kingdom of God is the good news, the Gospel, we must strive to enter. The Word said that “**every man entereth violently** into it”. But what is standing in the way of entering :

- Jesus said **unless a man is born again** he cannot **see the Kingdom**. **If you cannot see you cannot look for it, you do not know where to go.** (Jesus said He came from heaven, likewise to see the things from heaven we need to be born from above.)
- Jesus said **unless a man be born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter.** There is a key required to enter. **Being born of water through baptism and being born of the Spirit.** (John the baptist said **I baptize in water and the one after me baptise in Spirit.**) But the **natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God:** for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know [them], **because they are spiritually discerned**”. 1 Corinthians 2:14
- Jesus said that it is not easy for a rich man to enter into the Kingdom of God for the rich man have placed his trust in his own provision, and therefore will find it difficult to surrender unto the Kingdom's principals. The kingdom principals is based upon trust and trusting the King i.e. faith.
- Jesus said that unless we receive the Kingdom as children we cannot enter there in, as children we do not rely upon our own understanding, we have simple faith. Faith that said “thus said the Lord”.

Apart from the keys required to enter into the Kingdom of God, there is also the mysteries that we must consider so that we can see “*And he said, **Unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God: but to others in parables; that seeing they might not see, and hearing they might not understand***”. Luke 8:10. The bible said that “*And he said unto them, **Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given. For he that hath, to him shall be given: and he that hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he hath. And he said, So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground; And should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how. For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear.***” Mar 4:24-28. The mystery is found in that what we hear we must consider, as a seed that is cast into the ground and allowed to grow into full maturity. It is only a full grown plant that bear fruit and can sow a seed that will produce that same plant. The Kingdom of God must be expanded in that same way. “*Take heed therefore how ye hear: for whosoever hath, to him shall be given; and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have.*” Luke 8:18 As we consider that what we hear, the Holy Spirit can reveal to us the truth there of. God told Joshua to meditate on the Word, day and night, that it should not depart from him. We must stay within the Kingdom, day and night, we must take captive every thought that is not in accordance to the Kingdom so that the Kingdom can grow within us, until it reach full maturity so that in sowing, the Kingdom can be advanced. (We sow the promises of God and His Kingdom, through the power of prayer, but unless the Kingdom rule our lives, the seed is not mature and cannot reproduce)

Looking at the Word of God we must acknowledge that God and His Kingdom is inseparable, they are one. “*for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit*”. Romans 14:17 and “*For the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power*”. 1 Corinthians 4:20 and “*righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; lovingkindness and truth go before Your face.*” Psalm 89:14.

The Jews believe that, unlike the prosperity gospel (that is a lie), that God is not there for us to be blessed by Him, but we are here to bless God in our lives. Therefore they hold the belief, (which I think we must embrace) that in every blessing, or prayer, God's name must be mentioned along with His kingdom.

In this petition “Thy Kingdom come” the disciples were taught to pray for the success of the Gospel, both among Jews and Gentiles; for the conversion of God's elect, in which the kingdom of God would greatly appear, to the destruction of the kingdom of Satan. “*And I also say unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it*”. *Mat 16:18* Jesus said that upon the revelation of who He is, the Son of the Living God, He will build His church (fellowship of believers, believing in the Gospel as preached by the Lord = His Kingdom) and that the kingdom of hades will not be able to stop it. Jesus, came to establish His Kingdom were He will reign on His return, we as His subjects have been given everything so that we can establish His Kingdom so as to reign with Him on His return.

Looking again at Luke 16:16 I would like to remind you that we need to make a definite decision and force ourselves to enter into the Kingdom *Luke 16:16 violently = forcefully to force ourselves into it = to force our way as to enter the Kingdom of God – as to force ourselves into submission to Kingdom of God and His principals.*

(Can it be that because we are focused on ourselves and our own need more than on the King and the establishment of His Kingdom, that we do not receive ?

“Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may spend [it] in your pleasures”. Jam 4:3)

True story :

When we consider the history of man, it is so that whenever a king would wage war against another and won the battle, the former enemy would become subjects of the new king, and serve within his kingdom. We are called to serve the King of kings, and the Lord of lords. If His kingdom has come in our own lives, the enemy will recognize His Kingdom and bow before Him. It is not before the carrier of the Kingdom it is before the King.

The Bible gave us an example, of the ark of the covenant (that represent the King, God's glory and Kingship) *Now the Philistines had taken the ark of God, and they brought it from Eben-ezer unto Ashdod. And the Philistines took the ark of God, and brought it into the house of Dagon, and set it by Dagon. And when they of Ashdod arose early on the morrow, behold, Dagon was fallen upon his face to the ground before the ark of Jehovah. And they took Dagon, and set him in his place again. And when they arose early on the morrow morning, behold, Dagon was fallen upon his face to the ground before the ark of Jehovah; and the head of Dagon and both the palms of his hands [lay] cut off upon the threshold; only [the stump of] Dagon was left to him. Therefore neither the priests of Dagon, nor any that come into Dagon's house, tread on the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod, unto this day. But the hand of Jehovah was heavy upon them of Ashdod, and he destroyed them, and smote them with tumors, even Ashdod and the borders thereof. 1Samuel 5:1-6*

The ark was only representing the presence of God, likewise we are called to be ambassadors for the Kingdom of God, when we go in obedience, we go as representing the Kingdom of God.

I want to leave you with a story of how the fire spread in South Africa in the early 1900's through a man named Don Van Vuuren. He was a man who was sick with tuberculosis. His friends sent him a letter telling Him of how God was moving among them (in John G Lake's ministry). This moved him deeply and he cried out to God to be made whole. Within a few minutes he could breathe deeply, and was completely healed, and baptised in the Spirit. His wife, who wanted nothing to do with God, saw the change in her husband and that he was healed, gave her life to Jesus right there. Within a week their whole house of 13 people were all saved and filled with the Spirit. **The fire**

spread to his family and soon 19 families were baptised in the Holy Ghost. Van Vuuren heard from God not long after, that He wanted him to go to parliament. Premier Botha tells of his encounter with VanVuuren: *...that man came into my office and stood ten feet from my desk. I looked up, and before he commenced to speak, I began to shake and rattle in my chair. I knelt down. I had to put my head under the desk and cried to God, why? he looked like God, he talked like God.* For 18 days he went to different leaders of the government "until every high official knew there was a God and a Christ and a Savior and a Baptism of the Holy Spirit."

We have experienced an incident in Mozambique manifesting the truth of Matt 12v25-30. We as a team entered the house of a family with a demon possessed mother. She could not come close to us and was running up and down. Then at a stage after sharing and praying with the husband – the spiritual head of the house. She came to us and explained that she could not come close to us because of the spirit in her that could not stand the strong light in us. In this case the Lord delivered the woman even without us praying for her.

In another incident a lady brought her husband who had just been released from jail for deliverance to a prayer meeting. While the prayer meeting was in progress he wanted to leave as he started to feel uncomfortable, as if something was trying to choke him. However he was asked to stay and as he submitted to the Kingdom of God and stayed that 'thing' – demonic spirit left. The Kingdom of God manifested on earth in the prayer meeting. Had he left prematurely he would have left with the demon and without being delivered.

God's authority :

Let us consider God's authority!

*But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, **are transformed into the same image** from glory to glory, even as from the Lord the Spirit. Therefore seeing **we have this ministry**, even as we obtained mercy, we faint not: but we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; **but by the manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.** And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled in them that perish: in whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that the light of the **gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God**, should not dawn [upon them]. **For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.** Seeing it is God, that said, *Light shall shine out of darkness, who shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, **that the exceeding greatness of the power may be of God, and not from ourselves;*** 2 Co 3:18 - 2Co 4:1-7*

*Wherefore **if any man is in Christ, [he is] a new creature:** the old things are passed away; behold, they are become new. **But all things are of God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ, and gave unto us the ministry of reconciliation;*** 2Co 5:17-18

*and put on the **new man, that after God hath been created in righteousness and holiness of truth.*** Eph 4:24

*And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them a heart of flesh; **that they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God.*** Eze 11:19-20

If then ye were raised together with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated on the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things that are above, not on the things that are upon the earth. For ye died, and your life is hid with Christ in God. Col 3:1-3

*For we are **His workmanship, created** (made new-recreated – in the image of Christ) **in Christ Jesus for***

good works, which God afore prepared that we should walk in them. (there is only one thing that God had in mind for us from before the foundation of this world – being created in His image to let His Kingdom be established on earth) *Wherefore remember, that once ye, the Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called Circumcision, in the flesh, made by hands; that ye were at that time separate from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of the promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus ye that once were far off are made nigh in the blood of Christ. For he is our peace, who made both one, and broke down the middle wall of partition, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, [even] the law of commandments [contained] in ordinances; that He might create in himself of the two one new man, [so] making peace; and might reconcile them both in one body* (the body of Christ-being the hand and the feet of our Lord to establish His will and rule-His Kingdom) *unto God through the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: and he came and preached peace to you that were far off, and peace to them that were nigh: for through Him (Christ Jesus)| we both have our access in one Spirit unto the Father. So then ye are no more strangers and sojourners, but ye are fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God* (we belong to one family-one Kingdom, called the household of God), *being built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the chief corner stone; in whom each several building, fitly framed together, groweth into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom ye also are built together for a habitation of God in the Spirit* (that is the good works that God planned from the beginning and now in Christ Jesus can be fulfilled). *Ephesians 2:10-22*

We repeat there is only one thing that God had in mind for us from before the foundation of this world – being created in His image to let His Kingdom be established on earth i.e. the body of Christ-being the hand and the feet of our Lord to establish His will and rule-His Kingdom here on earth.

Conclusion :

It is not about us, it's all about God and His Kingdom. “Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may spend [it] in your pleasures”. Jam 4:3 We are called to pray and not to ask, pray = worship that is to the glory of God. To ask is for our own lust, but to intercede is to ask for the establishment of God's Kingdom in the hearts of others. To truly pray, we must first allow the seed of the Kingdom to grow within so that our desire is no more for self satisfaction but to satisfy the one who called us. As Paul used in “*No soldier on service entangleth himself in the affairs of [this] life; that he may please him who enrolled him as a soldier*”. *2Ti 2:4*

God has given us a job to do, and we need to understand the job description before we can do that job well. Teachers teach, runners run and artists create art, but what do ambassadors do? According to Wikipedia, **"An ambassador is the highest ranking diplomat who represents a nation."** He or she has authority to represent their head of state and their own country.

The biblical definition of ambassador, at least in 2 Corinthians 5:20, includes all the aspects of a political ambassador, but is better understood when we look at other translations : ~ New Century Version: "**So we have been sent to speak for Christ.**" ~ New International Reader's Version: "**So we are Christ's official messengers.**" ~ New Living Translation: "**God is using us to speak.**"

Jesus said “*As thou didst send me into the world, even so sent I them into the world.*” *John 17:18* to proclaim the Kingdom of God. Jesus said that He have been sent into the world to proclaim the Kingdom of God (Kingship, dominion and rule of God our Father)

If we look at the story of Don van Vuuren who entered into the office of the then President of South Africa, we must remember that the Kingdom we represent surpass the Kingdoms of this world. We however is not there to enforce God's Kingdom, we are called to manifest it, through our lives as we present the characteristics of the Kingdom, reminding us of the workshop where we acknowledge that God is Holiness, and Holiness is His character. Likewise we must show the characteristics of our Father and of His Kingdom, through our lives. *Zechariah 4:6* “*...Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith Jehovah of hosts.*”

We cannot manifest the Kingdom of God, if we are divided. Paul said “*But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the exceeding greatness of the power may be of God, and not from ourselves*” We received the Holy Spirit so that we can be a witness unto Christ Jesus, meaning not to witness about Him, but to witness in His likeness – not in words but in deeds. When Jesus said, in John 17 that we should be one in Them (Jesus and the Father). Jesus said a Kingdom divided cannot stand, we can not manifest the Kingdom of God as a divided Kingdom, we as a subject of that Kingdom must be united in our faith, the knowledge of Christ and in our alliance to the King and His Kingdom. To be united does not mean we cannot be different, for we have been created in such a way. We are the body of Christ, different in part and in action. When looking at a defence force, the purpose of the defence force is to manifest the will of the government in the country. The defence force, is not divided, it is under one leadership, but in the different activities through the different divisions in the army there is different approaches and functions as to how to achieve the same result and objective which is to defend the country.

In continually considering the Word of God, allowing the mystery to be unfolded as a seed that is cast in the ground, allowing it to grow until it reach maturity and then if the new seed is sown it will bring forth that same fruit. We must always consider what would Jesus do before we react, so that our actions will manifest the Kingdom of God and His Kingship. In so doing our prayer life will be a continuous walk with God in Christ Jesus. The Kingdom of God first need to be established within ourselves, then we will establish the Kingdom of God in and through our lives of continuous prayer as in Eph.6v18. Jesus gave us authority, but we must remind ourselves that although there is power in the Name of Jesus, being a true representative is not about using that power, but using the authority in obedience. Remember when Jesus said they will come saying Lord, Lord we cast out demons in your Name He will say I do not know you, you lawless one (you who react not in accordance to My authority)

According to Ephesians 2 we have been recreated to do the good works that God predestined for us, to build a dwelling place for God in the Spirit as we are joined together in the household of God, breaking down every dividing wall. It is through the building of a Spiritual dwelling place for God that we establish His Kingship, His rule and His Kingdom on earth.

Questions to be answered :

1. What is the meaning of the words “thy Kingdom come”?
2. How should we enter the Kingdom of God, and what is standing in our way?
3. What is the mystery that we should practice in order to know and see the Kingdom of God?
4. Being an ambassador, what is the *characteristic* that we need to express in our life?
5. How should we pray if we want to see the establishment of the Kingdom of God in a practical manner in our prayer-life and community?