

FACILITATOR / TEACHER GUIDE

SESSION 4 – YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE

Learning to Align Our Prayers With God's Purposes

PURPOSE OF THIS SESSION

In the Lord's Prayer, Jesus moves from **worship** into **alignment**. After naming God's holiness, He teaches His followers to pray:

"Your Kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."

This session explores how prayer is not primarily about getting God to support our plans, but about **shaping our hearts to participate in God's work**. Jesus invites us to pray with openness, surrender, and trust—learning to desire what God desires.

The purpose of this session is to help participants reflect on the difference between **self-directed prayer** and **God-aligned prayer**, and to explore what it means to seek God's Kingdom in everyday life.

INTENDED USE

This lesson is designed for **personal preparation and group discussion**. Participants should complete the Student Guide before the group gathering.

The facilitator's role is to:

- Guide reflection rather than resolve tension
- Help participants name resistance honestly
- Create space for surrender without pressure
- Keep the focus on posture, not passivity

This session works best when facilitators allow complexity and avoid easy answers.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this session, participants should be able to:

- Understand what Jesus means by God's Kingdom
- Reflect on the meaning of praying for God's will
- Recognize resistance to surrender in prayer
- Distinguish between control and trust



- Consider how prayer shapes participation in God's work
-

FACILITATOR PREPARATION

Before leading the session:

- Slowly read the Lord's Prayer with attention to this line
- Reflect on times you struggled with surrender in prayer
- Be aware that this topic can surface fear or loss of control
- Prepare to normalize struggle rather than resolve it
- Allow silence and honest questioning

Avoid framing surrender as weakness. Emphasize trust and relationship.

SESSION FLOW (60–75 MINUTES)

1. WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

Welcome participants and connect this session to the previous movement of the prayer.

You may say:

“So far, we've seen prayer begin with relationship and worship. Today we notice how Jesus invites us to pray in alignment with God's purposes.”

Open with prayer, asking God to:

- Help the group listen honestly
- Create openness to God's leading
- Shape hearts toward trust

Suggested prayer focus:

- Openness to God's purposes
 - Courage to release control
 - Desire for God's Kingdom
-

2. ORIENTING THE GROUP: A TURN IN THE PRAYER (5 MINUTES)



Briefly frame the shift.

Key points to highlight:

- The prayer now turns outward
- Focus moves from who God is to what God desires
- Prayer becomes participation, not just devotion

Key teaching point:

Prayer is not only about relationship—it is about **alignment**.

3. DISCUSSION: “YOUR KINGDOM COME” (10 MINUTES)

Invite reflection on the language of Kingdom.

Discussion prompts:

- **What comes to mind when you hear “God’s Kingdom”?**
- **How is God’s Kingdom different from human power or success?**
- **Why do you think Jesus invites us to pray for it?**

Facilitator guidance:

- Avoid abstract definitions
 - Encourage concrete examples
 - Keep focus on lived experience
-

4. DISCUSSION: “YOUR WILL BE DONE” (10 MINUTES)

Shift attention to surrender.

Discussion prompts:

- **What emotions surface when you hear this phrase?**
- **Why can surrender feel difficult or threatening?**
- **How is trusting God’s will different from resignation?**

Facilitator insight:

Surrender in prayer is not giving up—it is **entrusting**.

5. DISCUSSION: ALIGNMENT VS. CONTROL (10 MINUTES)



Explore common tensions.

Key teaching point:

Prayer shapes desire before it changes circumstances.

Discussion prompts:

- **Where do people tend to seek control through prayer?**
- **How can prayer subtly become about managing outcomes?**
- **What changes when prayer becomes listening rather than persuading?**

Normalize struggle without judgment.

6. DISCUSSION: “ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN” (5–10 MINUTES)

Focus on participation.

Discussion prompts:

- **What does this phrase suggest about our role in God’s work?**
- **Where do you see brokenness that reflects a need for God’s Kingdom?**
- **How might prayer shape how we live, not just what we ask?**

Keep this grounded and practical.

7. REFLECTION: RESISTANCE AND TRUST (5–10 MINUTES)

Invite inward reflection.

Reflection questions:

- **Where do you resist God’s will most strongly?**
- **What fears surface when control is released?**
- **What helps you trust God more deeply?**

Allow silence. Do not rush to reassurance.

8. INVITATION: PRAYING WITH OPEN HANDS (5 MINUTES)

Help participants look ahead.

Discussion prompts:



- **What would it look like to pray with openness rather than certainty?**
- **How might surrender become an act of trust?**
- **What is one area you sense God inviting you to entrust to Him?**

Encourage gentle honesty, not dramatic commitments.

9. CLOSING PRAYER AND BLESSING (5 MINUTES)

Close by thanking God for:

- His Kingdom
- His wisdom
- His trustworthy will

You may end by slowly praying this line of the Lord's Prayer together.

Optional prayer focus:

- Trust
 - Courage
 - Willingness to follow
-

KEY TAKEAWAY FOR FACILITATORS

This session is about **formation, not resolution**.

If participants leave with:

- Greater awareness of God's purposes
- Increased honesty about control and surrender
- Openness to alignment rather than answers

then the session has succeeded.

Let prayer reshape desire.

Let trust replace control.

Let God's Kingdom remain the focus.

