

Lenten Study - The Lord's Prayer  
Session 2 – 3/16/2022

BIBLE PASSAGES FOR DISCUSSION

**Isaiah 2:2-5**

<sup>2</sup> In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hills;  
all the nations shall stream to it.

<sup>3</sup> Many peoples shall come and say,  
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
to the house of the God of Jacob;  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup> He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;  
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,  
and their spears into pruning hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.

<sup>5</sup> O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the LORD!

(NRSV)

**Revelation 21:1-5**

**21** Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

<sup>4</sup> he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away."

<sup>5</sup> And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." (NRSV)

OPENING THE SESSION: How do you react to the following statements?

- 1=strongly agree;
- 2=mostly agree;
- 3=neither agree nor disagree;
- 4=mostly disagree;
- 5=strongly disagree

- Everything happens for a reason.
- God has a plan for your life.
- It's difficult to know God's will.
- God is in control.
- God's ways are not our ways.

Let us pray: **Sovereign God, who created and rules over all: Fix our hearts and minds in this time together on the day when your will shall be done on earth as in heaven, and by your Spirit make us so long for its dawning that we live every day in more faithful obedience to your Son, our Savior, Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

WATCH *THE LORD'S PRAYER* VIDEO – SESSION 2

#### GLIMPING THE KINGDOM IN SCRIPTURE

“We [you] cannot fully understand Jesus, what he taught, stood for, and incarnated without understanding the kingdom of heaven.” “What are we praying for when we pray for God's kingdom to come? We are praying for God's will to be done on earth as it is in heaven.”

Read: Isaiah 2:2-5 and Revelation 21:1-5

Discuss:

- How do these Bible passages show God's will being done on earth?
- What connections can you draw between the Bible passage and how Jesus revealed the Kingdom of God?
- What actions does or might the vision in the Bible passage inspire you and/or your congregation to take now?

“*THY WILL, NOT MINE, BE DONE*”

Discuss:

- What is the will of God about which Jesus prays?
- Why does praying about it cause him to struggle?
- When else in life and ministry did Jesus model seeking and doing God's will?

## CLOSING THE GAP BETWEEN EARTH AND HEAVEN

Discuss:

- How do we pray for God's will to be done without resigning ourselves to the "fatalism" Hamilton rejects—the idea that "God will do what God wants to do"?
- Different people have different ideas about the way the world "is supposed to be." How should Christians discern the way God wants the world to be?
- How do or how ought Christians handle disagreements with each other about practical implications of praying to be agents of God's will (whom to vote for, which political causes to support, masking or not, vaccinations or not)?
- How can or how could the vision of God's kingdom, which is both present and future, help you and your congregation find common ground and common cause with non-Christians for purpose of more faithfully doing God's will?

## CLOSING THE SESSION

Consider one specific way you can plan to do God's will on earth as it is done in heaven before the next session.

Close with *The Lord's Prayer*.

One additional Bible passage:

### **Luke 22:39-46**

<sup>39</sup> He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. <sup>40</sup> When he reached the place, he said to them, "Pray that you may not come into the time of trial." <sup>41</sup> Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, <sup>42</sup> "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done." [[<sup>43</sup> Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. <sup>44</sup> In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground.]] <sup>45</sup> When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, <sup>46</sup> and he said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial." (NRSV)

Arminianism is a system of belief that attempts to explain the relationship between God's sovereignty and mankind's free will, especially in relation to salvation. Arminianism is named after [Jacobus Arminius](#) (1560—1609), a Dutch theologian. While Calvinism emphasizes the sovereignty of God, Arminianism emphasizes the responsibility of man. If Arminianism is broken down into five points, similar to the five points of Calvinism, these would be the five points:

- (1) Partial Depravity – humanity is depraved but still able to seek God. We are fallen and tainted by sin but not to the extent that we cannot choose to come to God and accept salvation, with the help of [prevenient grace](#) from God. Given such grace, human will is free and has the power to yield to the influence of the Spirit.
- (2) Conditional Election – God only “chooses” those whom He knows will choose to believe. No one is predetermined for either heaven or hell.
- (3) Unlimited Atonement – Jesus died for everyone, even those who are not chosen and will not believe. Jesus' death was for all of humanity, and anyone can be saved by belief in Him.
- (4) Resistible Grace – God's call to be saved can be resisted and/or rejected. We can resist God's pull toward salvation if we choose to.
- (5) Conditional Salvation – Christians can lose their salvation if they actively reject the Holy Spirit's influence in their lives. The maintenance of salvation is required for a Christian to retain it.