

Welcome to New Life !

We are very pleased you are here. It is an honor to have you worshipping with us today! This information is provided to help you feel welcome and “at home.”

~ Worship in Singing ...

- We leave how to worship up to you as an individual. During **singing** worship some people remain seated, some stand, others kneel, many clap, and some lift their hands. The outward expression is not the issue - it is what is in your heart that counts. Just relax and enjoy the presence of God.

~ Worship in Sharing God's Love & Giving ...

- Expressions of **greeting** and God's love are extended to all, especially to our guests.
- Invitation is given for **tithes and offerings**. If you are our guest, please do not feel obligated to contribute when God's tithes and offerings are received.

~ Worship in Meditating on God's Word ...

- **Teaching** from the Bible for about 35 minutes.

~ Worship in Prayer ...

- If you would like to receive personal **prayer**, you may go to one of the Prayer Teams located at the back of the sanctuary and in the balcony at the invitation for response at the end of the service, or come to the altar for private prayer.

We encourage you to use our **staffed Nursery** [which has a private nursing room] and our graded **Children's Churches** [for ages 2 1/2 - grade 5] during the service. Please ask an usher for assistance in locating the various rooms.

- turn page over -

Pastor Bob Wine

January 29, 2012

• GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE • Matthew 6:10

Matthew 6:10 “Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven.”

1. THE KEY TO **UNDERSTANDING** THE LORD'S PRAYER

- You cannot separate the concept of the kingdom of God from this prayer.
- Contrary to earthly kingdoms, the king is God who is pure and just, yet full of love.
- No man can look at the cross of Christ and doubt the **love of God**. And when we're sure of His love, it is easier to say, “*Thy will be done.*”

John 3:3 NLT “I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the **Kingdom of God**.”

- Salvation is far more than a ritualistic prayer. You can only enter His kingdom when your heart says to God, “*Thy will be done.*”
- You know this has happened to you by how it causes you to want to follow God's ways and do His will!

John 5:19 “I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does.”

Luke 22:42 “... not my will but yours be done”

2. WHAT IS GOD'S **WILL** FOR MY LIFE?

- God's primary will for your life is for you to love and trust Him and obey what He tells you -- in **little** and **big** things.

John 14:15 “If you love me, you will obey what I command.”

- How does God accomplish His will on earth? Just as He does in Heaven -- largely through those who love Him enough to obey His whispers.

Romans 12:1-2 NLT “I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to

- Digging Deeper -

For personal and small group study

Week of January 29, 2012

worship him. Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect."

- If God can't trust you to follow His gentle nudges in the small things that may be out of your comfort zone, how can you expect Him to trust you to do the bigger tasks later?

- God's **peace** settles upon us as we submit more of ourselves to His will.

Romans 14:17 NLT "For the Kingdom of God is not a matter of what we eat or drink, but of living a life of **goodness** and **peace** and **joy** in the Holy Spirit."

3. FOR HIS WILL TO COME, OURS MUST GO

- Why does God wait until you pray?

- Our confusion only shows the limitations of the human mind and that faith is absolutely required to please God.

- What about the attitude in which we should pray?

- It's possible to pray, "Thy will be done", in a tone of resentful resignation.

- To pray this way may come from our mouth, but not from our heart, which is what God listens to.

- You can humbly pray those words gladly and willingly in perfect love and trust -- no matter what His will is.

Romans 8:32 "He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?"

- Our biggest challenge is not in **finding** His will, but in actually living a life fully devoted to Him that He has already assigned us to do.

Philippians 2:13 NLT "God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him."

- **Love** changes everything.

- It is critically important that you see Jesus clearly teaches the prerequisite to effective praying is a humble attitude of submission to God's will for our lives.

[These questions are just **tools** to help with **personal discovery** helping you think about the concept. Every small group should be an opportunity to sharpen one another. **This is not done by lecturing, or dominating the discussion or giving answers in a direct way. They are guidelines to help make the concept clear.**]

1. A question many ask and struggle with is, "What is God's will for my life?" How important is it to you to discover God's will for your life? How is God's will discovered? (i.e. exact guidelines found in the Bible, or progressively discovered by wrestling through the daily application of biblical guidelines?)
2. What is the purpose of Jesus' statement, "*Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven*" (Matthew 6:10)? According to Romans 14:17, what is the kingdom of God? Can the truth of the kingdom of God ever be separated from the teaching of the Lord's Prayer? Why is it important to surrender our authority to God's kingdom authority when it comes to praying, "*Thy will be done?*" How does the truth of John 3:3 play into our understanding of the Lord's Prayer -- especially Matthew 6:10?
3. Read Matthew 5:16; John 5:19; 14:15 and Romans 12:1-2. According to these scriptures, what is God's will for our lives? Can you see how frustration and unhappiness could enter one's life if they are not following God's will? On the other hand, explain the sense of peace that comes by being in God's will. What is the significance of first obeying God in the small things of life before we can expect Him to entrust us with larger things?
4. Jesus prayed in Luke 22:42 "*...not my will but yours be done.*" What do you think motivated Jesus to pray this prayer? How important is it that we are motivated by this same kind of surrendered heart? What were the benefits Jesus ultimately gained by praying this from His heart? What does this say about what must happen to your will if you are to find and do God's will? How did Jesus model how this was to be done? What does this reveal about the passionate love Jesus had for the Father? Think about the significance of knowing how much Jesus loves you when you pray. [Luke 9:23-27]
5. Why do you think God often waits until you pray to reveal His will to you? Are you seriously trying to learn to hear God's whispers in your life? Why is our love relationship with God in the area of kingdom living and kingdom praying so vitally important?