

STUDY GUIDE

Covenant with God to Change This Age

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Believe for a Tangible Experience

When you are in spiritual battle and surrounded by circumstances, you tend to become very focused on the natural level. The circumstances surrounding daily life take a great deal of energy, and you can find yourself feeling hemmed in and not able to break free. You cannot seem to get the money you need. You cannot seem to get out of the negative situations you are in. You begin to feel as if you are trapped in a bubble, and you cannot do anything about it. In response, you try to solve all your problems on a very natural level. Your efforts become concentrated on a physical, mental, and emotional level as you try to deal with everything you are facing. On that level, it is easy to get frustrated and become defeated in your emotions. You begin to think, “There is no way out! I can’t change anything. I have tried so many times.” But there is a simple answer. When you pray, “Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven,” you are believing to see God’s Kingdom and His will actually come here on this earth as it is already established in heaven (Matthew 6:10). You are believing to have a tangible experience in your personal life.

When you are young, you have more physical energy, and it is easy to rely on your own strength for answers. We all do that and the more we do, the more we lock ourselves into the physical level. It is difficult for us to imagine that there is any other way to deal with our circumstances because the issues we face seem so physical. We deal with our health; we deal with our finances. Everything about our personal circumstances seems physical. The devil is very happy when he can keep you hemmed in by your circumstances because you are powerless if you approach things purely on a natural level. But there is something else you can do. Rather than chase your tail around in circles, you can take a different approach.



God Knows Your Situation

People today are facing many difficult circumstances, and we need to be much more effective in dealing with those needs. So let us look at the Lord's Prayer and see how we can apply it specifically. Yeshua (Jesus) began His teaching on prayer by saying, "Your Father knows what you need before you ask Him."

And when you are praying, do not use meaningless repetition as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words. So do not be like them; for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him.

MATTHEW 6:7-8

That is something you must keep uppermost in your mind. God knows your situation. He knows your circumstances, and He is very aware of what you are facing. It is easy to say, "Well then, why should we pray?" God is always trying to get us to be His instruments in the earth. He always moves through human vessels. Therefore, He tries to get us to the place where we can be His expression. The next verse reads, "Pray, then, in this way: 'Our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be Your name'" (Matthew 6:9). God is holy. The first thing you do in prayer is recognize Him; you honor and worship Him. Realize, first of all, that He is there. Hebrews 11:6 teaches that if you are going to come to God, you have to believe that He is. That may sound silly, especially for believers, but there are varying degrees to which we recognize that. Is God really in charge? Is He really all powerful? Is He really engaged in our lives? Your awareness has to be more than just saying, "God is out there somewhere." You have to believe that God is right here. He is in you. He is working with you. His presence surrounds you. By your worship, you make Him a force that is surrounding you and is engaged with you. In your awareness of Him, you make God alive to you.



Understand Your Purpose on Earth

After we come into this awareness of the Father, we make a demand: “Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven” (Matthew 6:10). This is by no means an inordinate demand on God. We are not approaching Him with a bad attitude. Instead, we recognize that He knows what we need, and His purpose is to bring His will here on earth as it is in heaven. The heavenly or spiritual reality is the world where God rules and reigns. His will already exists in heaven, but He wants His will to be here also. Yeshua told the disciples to be His instruments, to be those who pray, “Father, all the elements that are in place in the heavens—the same control and the same freedom—let them be here on earth.” When you get that concept, you really begin to understand what God is doing, and you begin to understand why you are here and what your purpose is.

More than just praying a prayer, you have to see yourself literally as the enforcer who declares, “It will be this way!” The Lord’s Prayer is not a general prayer. It applies specifically to your circumstances and the things you need like your health or finances. You have to confront these areas directly and say, “Lord, Your Kingdom come! This circumstance needs to conform to Your will in this earth. It needs to bow to Your Kingdom.” All things need to be brought into subjection to the way God wants them to be. Refuse to allow your circumstances to become so huge that they are bigger to you than He is. Look at them and declare, “Come into subjection to Christ’s authority!”



Expect to See God's Will Manifested in Your Life

The prayer “Your Kingdom come” is a declaration that you make with intensity and persistence. You do not just say it once and walk away. It is something that you become convinced of. The Lord’s Prayer is an unending prayer. The Bible teaches us to “pray without ceasing” (1 Thessalonians 5:17). This is not vain repetition (Matthew 6:7). You are declaring His Kingdom to be the reality. It is something you are saying with every breath. As you walk through your day, your spirit declares, “Your Kingdom come on this earth!” What do you do with your finances? You command them to bow to the will of God. What do you do about your physical health? You tell your body to bow to the Kingdom of God. Whatever His will is for us physically and financially, that is what we expect to see manifested. We expect that whatever we own or manage will be in the will of God. We expect them to have the blessings of God because everything concerning us is about bringing heaven into the earth.

That is what this prayer is really all about: “God, let heaven be manifested on this earth. Let it be here just as it is now in heaven.” The Lord’s Prayer is not weak in any respect. It is saying, “Everything about my life and my circumstances lines up to the Kingdom of God.” What is the Kingdom of God? It is a kingdom. A kingdom means there is a king, a ruler who is all-powerful, who determines everything that happens. He determines how it happens, when it happens, and where it happens. In the Kingdom of God, God is the King. He is the one who determines what happens. The Kingdom of God is not a democracy. The government of the Kingdom of God is not something we vote on. If you are disappointed that you do not get a vote, just remember that the devil does not get a vote either. It is God who makes up His mind. Whatever is in His heart and whatever is in His will is what will be. He is the determining factor. We, in turn, become the enforcers of His will in the earth.

The Kingdom of God begins within us (Luke 17:21). We cannot scream at our circumstances and say, “I want you to line up to the will of God, but when it comes to me, I want to do whatever I want.” It does not work that way. The Kingdom gets applied to you first, and then to everything around you. One of the greatest ways to align yourself with His will is to start praying this prayer because when you do, God will start dealing with everything in you that is not in line with His will. He will start putting His finger on things and say, “How do you expect Me to make this circumstance line up to My will when you are not aligned with My will?” That is what a walk with God is all about. It is first about us becoming the Kingdom. We are the house of the Lord, the sanctuary, the dwelling place of God (1 Corinthians 3:16). He is making us that.



The Father Will Provide for Us

Continuing in the Lord’s Prayer, we read, “Give us this day our daily bread” (Matthew 6:11). This verse is literally translated, “Give us this day our bread for tomorrow.” It is about providing for our needs. This verse recaps what Yeshua said before He started His teaching on prayer: “Your Father knows what you need” (Matthew 6:8). We can do nothing in ourselves about our needs; the Father provides for us. It must be deeply rooted in our hearts and minds that the Lord honestly will provide for us. The Lord, according to His will, provides the necessities while we are declaring His will in the earth. We need to change our negative thought patterns: “I prayed, and the Lord did not do anything about it.” That is an outgrowth of our mindset that we have to provide for ourselves. We tend to think, “Yes, the Lord is there, but I

have to take care of everything because He won't do it if I don't."

It is contradictory to say, "The Lord is the King and He is in charge, but I had better take care of this." Something has to be settled in your heart so that you pray, "Lord, You know what my needs are, and I am expecting that You will provide for my needs. Give me today my daily bread. Give me what I need for tomorrow." This prayer means that today, before your foot sets down into tomorrow, the Father will provide for your needs. This prayer literally becomes a covenant with God where you say, "You are going to provide for me, and I will trust You." Trusting the Lord for our needs is extremely important because this is an area where we experience a gradual erosion of our relationship with Him. Everything seems to come in and tells us, "Did the Lord say that? That's not going to work." Do not buy into the serpent's lie (Genesis 3:1). Keep yourself positioned in the Father.



The Kingdom of God Is Connected to Our Relationships

Yeshua continued teaching about prayer, saying, "And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil" (Matthew 6:12–13). It is a spiritual principle that the Lord will act toward us as we act toward one another. If we are not acting toward others with a right spirit, then the Lord cannot move. He is always waiting for us to come into an attitude of spirit in which He can act. You see this happen with married couples who come for marriage counseling. Sometimes both come with such bad spirits that God cannot intervene in their situation. They will not find an answer until they are right in their spirits toward the Lord. We have to be positioned in such a way that He can move. We do not want our own actions and attitudes to literally be blocking His will. We do not want to be an impasse that stops Him from being able to move. We want to make sure

that the switch is on, and the power can flow into our circumstances. The Kingdom of God is connected to our relationships. What is going on in our midst? How am I relating to you? Am I loving you? Am I forgiving you? Am I holding things against you? We need our relationships to literally be the atmosphere in which God moves.

We read in the book of Hebrews: “YOU HAVE MADE HIM [speaking of Christ] FOR A LITTLE WHILE LOWER THAN THE ANGELS; YOU HAVE CROWNED HIM WITH GLORY AND HONOR, AND HAVE APPOINTED HIM OVER THE WORKS OF YOUR HANDS” (Hebrews 2:7). When Christ was resurrected, God handed everything over to Him. God appointed Him over all the works of His hands, which is everything that exists. “YOU HAVE PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET” (Hebrews 2:8). That is the heavenly position; all things are in subjection under Christ’s feet. Hebrews 2:8 continues, “For in subjecting all things to him, He left nothing that is not subject to him. But now we do not yet see all things subjected to him.” From where we are here on this earth, we do not yet see all things subjected to Christ.



We Are in a Relationship with God to Change This Age

When we look around at our circumstances, our relationships, our finances, whatever we are in the midst of, we do not yet see the Kingdom of God on earth as it is in heaven. This is where the Lord’s Prayer comes in because we must bring these areas into subjection to Him. We see that all things are not yet in subjection here on the earth, but we know that all things have been brought into subjection in the heavenly places. Therefore, we enforce the

subjugation of all things on this earth unto Christ. That is the role that we play. We should not be deceived by the fact that we do not see everything in subjection. That is not a reason to give up and simply accept things the way they are. It may be the way things are, but those are the very things we are supposed to deal with. We are in a relationship with God to change this age.

The way of prayer that Yeshua taught His disciples shows us how we can change all these areas, and we need to go about doing just that. There may be a different application for each individual, but everyone can apply this prayer to his or her personal situation. Some people are under the weight of problems that they need to break out of. Some are influenced by circumstances from the past that have conditioned them to think that there is nothing they can do. Others are under a heavy financial burden that they feel is impossible to change. The truth is there is a way to change everything. That is what the family of God is about; there is a way to do it. Ask God to make everything in your life align to His Kingdom and His will. Bring every area of your life into subjection to Him.



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Contact us by sending an email to info@hargraveministries.com

All Scripture references are from the New American Standard Bible 1995 (NASB1995).

ABOUT GARY HARGRAVE



GARY HARGRAVE has a passion for leading people into spiritual maturity. Gary effectively ministers the life-changing truth of God's Word through Bible teaching and prophetic revelation that emphasizes the Lordship of Christ.

Gary embraces the teachings and insights of the Hebrew Scriptures as the essential foundation of God's Kingdom and the roots of Christian faith.

By cultivating spiritual maturity in Christians, Gary is deeply committed to teaching and inspiring unity in the Body of Christ and between Christians and the Jewish people.

Throughout decades of ministry, Gary has worked closely with leaders in the Jewish, Catholic and Protestant communities to build relationships based on commonality and understanding. He frequently leads study tours to Israel and the lands of the Bible.

Gary is the host of a weekly podcast entitled *Growing In God*, and is the founder of Shiloh University, an accredited online Bible college and seminary.

Gary and his family reside in Hawaii.

For other insightful resources by Gary Hargrave, including podcasts, books, articles, videos, and other educational materials, please visit: www.HargraveMinistries.org.

ABOUT HARGRAVE MINISTRIES

The calling of the Lord upon this ministry is to lead people into spiritual maturity by revealing biblical truth. **Our passion is to see the Kingdom of God manifest on earth** as the Body of Christ grows in unity, power and love.

Everything we do flows from the revelation of the Jewish roots of our Christian faith. It is our desire and privilege to bless the land and people of Israel. Our Israel outreach includes our ability to:

- **Feed the poor and break the cycle of poverty in Israel**
- **Support the orphans and widows of fallen Israeli soldiers**
- Provide physical and emotional care to **child victims of terrorism**
- **Build bridges between Christians and Jews with biblical study and research**
- Support archaeology and preservation of the **biblical City of David**
- Provide 24/7 **care for Holocaust survivors**
- **Help persecuted Jews around the world return to Israel and start new lives**
- Plant trees to **reforest Israel** and help create **"The Gospel Trail"** between Nazareth and Capernaum

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