"The only contribution we make to worship is our sin. The only thing we bring to the service is our need. Our response is not the gospel. It is the fruit of the gospel."

- Zac Hicks -

"What a wretched man I am!" "What a wretched woman I am!"

"Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death?"

"Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!"



THE CULTURE OF HEAVEN

⁵ "And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. ⁶ But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen.

Matthew 6:5-13

Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. ⁷ And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words.⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

Matthew 6:5-13

⁹ "This, then, is how you should pray: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, ¹⁰ your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. ¹¹ Give us today our daily bread. ¹² And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. ¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Matthew 6:5-13

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made...

> ¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.

> > John 1:1-3, 14

Kingdom Culture

Wherever Christ is, the culture of heaven is

⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 2:6-7

Our citizenship is in heaven

Philippians 3:20

Kingdom Culture

"The only way to change culture is to create more of it."

- Andy Crouch -

Kingdom Culture

1) Look Above (vs. 9) Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Kingdom Culture

We direct our prayer to the Father through the Son by the Holy Spirit

⁴ For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will.

Ephesians 1:4-5

¹ The LORD reigns, he is robed in majesty; the LORD is robed in majesty and armed with strength; indeed, the world is established, firm and secure. ² Your throne was established long ago; you are from all eternity.

Psalm 93:1-2



Kingdom Culture

2) Look Below (vs. 10-11) ¹⁰ Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. ¹¹ Give us today our daily bread.

My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.

Matthew 26:39

My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done.

Matthew 26:41

Kingdom Culture

When we look above, He provides below

³¹ Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat." ³² Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven.

John 6:31-35

³³ For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." ³⁴ "Sir," they said, "always give us this bread." 35 Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

John 6:31-35

Kingdom Culture

The culture of heaven is not meant to stay up, it is meant to come down

Kingdom Culture

3) Look Beside (vs. 12) ¹² And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

Kingdom Culture

And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites (vs. 5)

And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans (vs. 7)

Kingdom Culture

We remember to pray "forgive us our debts", but have forgotten to pray "as we have forgiven our debtors"

¹⁶ So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

2 Cor. 5:16-19

¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹ that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.

2 Cor. 5:16-19

Kingdom Culture

Reconciliation is effecting Christ's work on our old relationships so that they are made new

Kingdom Culture

New creation is the product of the culture of heaven

Kingdom Culture

4) Look Before and Behind (vs. 13) ¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Then Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority over unclean spirits, so that they could drive them out and heal every disease and every illness.

Matthew 10:1

¹⁸ He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.¹⁹ I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. ²⁰ However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

Luke 10:18-20

Kingdom Culture

When we exercise this authority by saying "no" to temptation and "yes" to deliverance, we can also say "no" to the culture of hell and say "yes" to the culture of heaven

⁷ Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

James 4:7

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise, Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me.

- St. Patrick, an Irish Prayer -

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

¹⁰ Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

¹¹ Give us today our daily bread.

¹² And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

[For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.]

