

## **Matthew 6: 9-13 "Kingdom, Power, Glory"**

### **Read Matthew 6:9-13**

The last line of the Lord's prayer – For yours is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory, forever and ever. Amen. – is a prayer of repose. A prayer of rest. A prayer communicating where our ultimate joy, peace, hope and security rests.

1. C.S. Lewis in his sermon "The weight of glory" spoke of the reality that if we mistake the joy these things (be it money, career, relationship, power, recognition etc.) give us for the real thing that we will make these things into dumb idols breaking the hearts of the worshippers. They were only meant to point us to the ultimate. What are some of the things you root your joy, peace, hope, security on? How has the seismic event of Covid 19 exposes them to not be the secure foundations we thought them to be? How is it impacting you?
2. In his article in Time magazine Anglican scholar N.T. Wright invited Christians in the midst of this pandemic to lament. What are you most lamenting at this time?

### **(Kingdom) Read John 20:1-9; 26-28**

3. In light of the resurrection we lament with hope. Each of the resurrection stories found in the gospels begin with the words "on the first day of the week". This is a reference to the book of Genesis, in the beginning God created the heavens and the earth, which began on the first day. In the resurrection we are looking at the dawn of a new creation, God's kingdom being made manifest, and beginning to advance. What does it look like to lament during this time with the hope of a new creation?

### **(Power) Read Ephesians 1:15-20**

4. According to the Lord's prayer what can we trust that God is at work in us accomplishing? How does a firm belief in the bodily resurrection of Jesus impact our trust in those promises?

### **(Glory) Read Philippians 3:20-21; 2 Corinthians 4:17**

5. If Jesus' resurrected body expresses what our resurrection body will look like from the John passage and your memory of the other resurrection appearances of Jesus, what will our resurrected body be like?
6. Jesus' resurrected body included the wounds of his crucifixion. Paul in reflecting on the resurrection says that our current sufferings are preparing us for an eternal weight of glory. What do you think this might look like? How does this help you face our current circumstances?