

# SUMMER DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION GUIDE

## PRAYER: KINGDOM PRAYERS

When Jesus teaches us to pray and says, “Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as in heaven,” he is giving us more than just words to recite—he’s giving us a model for a *type* of prayer. We call these *kingdom prayers* because they orient our hearts and lives to see our world in light of God’s kingdom beyond our own circumstances. Orienting our prayers this way doesn’t diminish the “small things” of our lives, but orders them rightly within God’s bigger story. Kingdom prayer is distinct in that it is bold, specific, prevailing, “frontline” prayer for God’s presence and kingdom to become a reality in our lives, in our church, in our city, and in our world. When we pray kingdom prayers we participate with God in making the kingdom of God a reality on earth as in heaven.

### PRACTICE

Using the template below, spend 20-30 minutes of personal, undistracted time praying:

#### **Pray for our church to flourish.**

- For God’s will to be done in our church
- For new attenders to plug into our family
- For our leaders health, spiritual renewal, and wisdom
- For our worship to be rich and powerful and God-centered
- For the specific ministries of our church

#### **Pray for Christ-followers to grow.**

- For confession of sin and renewal of our love for God
- For authenticity of our lives and conversations
- For deepening spiritual relationships
- For increase in a desire to pray and engage with Scripture
- For unity among Christians

#### **Pray for our city and our world.**

- For unbelievers and unchurched people to visit our church regularly
- For our people to have a passionate desire to tell others about Jesus
- For those you know who don’t know Christ to trust him for salvation
- For God’s people to be a blessing in every area of our city
- For our community leaders—elect officials, first responders, teachers and school staff, etc.

#### **Pray for God’s glory to be known & God’s kingdom to reign.**

- For justice and mercy to be done in places of injustice, poverty, etc.
- For Jesus to be honored openly, worshiped, and glorified in Edmond and around the world
- For people to be captured by the glory and beauty and mystery of God’s presence
- For all people to order their lives under the truth, morality, and values of God’s kingdom
- For Jesus to return and fully and finally establish his kingdom on Earth

For previous week’s guides, go to [redemptionokc.com/summerdevotions](https://redemptionokc.com/summerdevotions).



## **REFLECTION QUESTIONS**

### **PSALM 126 | THE LORD OUR JOY**

#### **LEARNING THE WORD**

1. Each week this summer, our Reflection Guide will include a spiritual practice for you to engage in your personal devotional time. Begin this week by reading page one of the reflection guide. How do *Kingdom Prayers* such as these expand your view of prayer and your participation in God's kingdom?
2. Read Psalm 126 aloud. This psalm clearly shifts in the middle of the song. What is the emotional feel and general situation in verses 1-3? What is the emotional feel and general situation in verses 4-6?
3. When God delivers his people (v. 1), identify at least three specific results mentioned (v. 2-3)?
4. Verses 5-6 repeat of the same image in order to reinforce an important idea. What is the image used and what spiritual promise (note the word will or shall in both verses) is the psalm offering to us?

#### **LIVING THE WORD**

5. Reflect on times when you could say of your own life: "The Lord has done great things for us; we are glad." Can you share an example of when you knew the Lord has done good to you?
6. How do past times of rejoicing in God and the gospel strengthen you in tough times? In other words, why are good memories important to our spiritual well-being in seasons of sorrow?
7. Read Hebrews 12:2. How did Jesus give us the ultimate demonstration of the gospel promise that, in the Lord, sorrow produces joy?
8. In light of God's promises in Psalm 126, how might you express joyful trust in God today?

Practice this week: Pick a time to spend 20-30 minutes of personal, undistracted time praying Kingdom prayers like those on the other side of this sheet. Use this time to practice praying big prayers for God's work in our world. Ask our Heavenly Father to increase your desire for his kingdom and for his will to be done on earth as it is in heaven.