In one of my devotional last week a story was told of an amusement park in the early 20th century, on an island (I believe in the middle of Lake Erie).

One day the amusement park caught fire. There was a huge response from the fire departments and the locals to get to the island.

One man was so caught up in the situation, that he brought his own bucket filled with water all the way across the lake.

It never occurred to him to use the water from the lake that surrounded the island.

Sometimes we Christians can find themselves living life like that man… Ignoring the tremendous resource that is closest to us…

Let’s say the Lord’s Prayer together - Matthew 6:9-13

Do you believe that the Lord intended for His followers to pray this way everyday?

How can we know? The word “daily” that occurs in the Lord’s Prayer might be a dead giveaway.

When we pray, are we seeking more than just daily

* Bread
* Forgiveness
* Protection

Do we also pray for (V10) for the Father’s Kingdom to come, and His will to be done on earth as it is in Heaven?

I hope we are, but do we understand what we are praying for?

The original meaning for the Greek word “come” that Jesus used is

* Enter us
* Occur in us
* Accompany us
* Grow in us
* Fall out of us

What value is there in having Heaven enter, occur, accompany, grow and fall out of us on earth daily… just like it is in HEAVEN?

It changes everything!

It certainly makes Philippians 4:13 seem much more possible than before…

Before we knew to pray for the power of heaven to come down, and do an amazing work in us, so earth would look more like heaven.

How do we get there?

Pray! Pray the Christians will move forward from simply converting to the person of Jesus, to converting to the message of Jesus…

From being satisfied with being the church that has God’s mission…

to the “mission of God” having His church!

Not being content with “having Jesus” in our hearts, but allowing Jesus to have and use your life to bring Heaven into the world!

* Heaven entering you by God’s Holy Spirit.
* Heaven accompanying you to walk in the POWER of Heaven.
* Growing you by the Word of God.
* Heaven falling out of you (as you live God’s Word) and impact the world.

When we make following Jesus less about us going to Heaven… and much more about “being Heaven” here in the real world… so others will come with us.

Let’s look at an example that Jesus set for us…

What is your favorite Biblical account?

Look at what happens when heaven shows up…

* Zaccheaus - Luke 19:1-4

What is Heaven’s response to this? V5 - When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.”

Heaven does things that are opposite of what the world might do…

How does the one who desires heaven respond? V6 - He came down at once and welcomed him (Jesus) gladly.

How do the onlookers needing heaven in them respond? V7 - All the people saw this and began to mutter, “He has gone to be the guest of a sinner.”

How does the one who has welcomed heaven respond? V8

But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord,“Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.”

A heavenly response if I’ve ever seen one!

How does heaven respond? V9-10 Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham.10For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

Heaven changes us… That’s why Jesus wants His followers to pray for every day for Heaven to:

* Enter us
* Occur in us
* Accompany us
* Grow in us
* Fall out of us

So that wonderful, joyful, hope-filled things happen through our lives!

When our head & heart are led by heaven…

* We hear opportunities to bring heaven to earth.
* We see opportunities to bring heaven to earth.
* Our hands and feet then work to do our Father’s will “on earth as it is in heaven”.

Jesus would never instruct His followers to do anything that He Himself had not done…

I believe Jesus prayed ever day the same way He instructed His followers to in the Lord’s Prayer…,

You see, all of our favorite historical accounts of Jesus in the Bible are not of Jesus having a mission, but the mission of God having Jesus!

John 5:19 - Jesus even told people: “Very truly I tell you, 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.

Jesus did what He instructs His followers to do on earth… as it is being done in Heaven.

John 6:38 - For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me.

Not the Savior having a mission, but God’s mission having a Savior!

How would things be different if what is being done in Heaven became more visible in you every day?

* At home? In your marriage/family
* At work?
* At the places where you go and gather?
* How would God’s church here be different?

How much better would your world be if the attitude of HEAVEN (healing/restoration) fell out of you?

We would become walking, talking pictures of Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount.

I met a Christian man this week who was struggling because his 23 year old daughter ran off to another state with a man that he highly disapproves of…

The thoughts in his mind that were falling out of his mouth didn’t sound like “what is being done heaven…”

I encouraged him to bring heaven with Him into the situation…

So that heaven could have a chance of becoming the outcome…

Live like Jesus did…

Anxiety, anger, the desire to hurt people… wringing your hands in worry… feeling like one has to self-medicate.

That sounds like hell… not heaven…

We don’t see any of those things in Jesus…

Jesus brought Heaven with Him into whatever He faced… so that God’s will could be done. “On earth as it is in Heaven”

And we can do “all things through Christ who gives us strength”

How can we know if heaven is accompanying us/falling out of us?

* Is God’s glory visible?
* Restoration/healing being experienced?
* Do tears dry up?
* Sorrow, suffering and pain fade away?

How would you have responded if Zacchaeus was a Camp Verde tax collector and he made the evening news for padding his pockets with excess taxes here in 2022?

Instead of; “come on down from that tree…” would you have said (or at least thought) “wait right there while I get some rope…”

Hang ‘em high!

Isn’t that the response of those needing heaven?

Or would Zaccheaus have seen heaven falling out of you and realized he needed what you have? Turning from his sin and turning to God?

Are you facing some difficult, unresolved situation today?

What would happen if you let heaven fall out on to it?

You’ll never know unless you convert from the person of Jesus to the message of Jesus.

Convert from being a Christian who believes in the mission of heaven, to letting the mission of heaven have you.

So that you can see the Father’s will being done on earth as it is in heaven, through you.

* His glory revealed
* Healing/Restoration is experienced
* Tears drying up
* Sorrow, suffering and pain fading away.

As the praise team comes up for our closing song…

Pray everyday for heaven to come in and be seen through you…

* Focus on the Lord – turn off your phone and pray. ASK THE LORD FOR A FRESH INFILLING OF HEAVEN DAILY!
* Intentionality – Attended Sunday morning & mid-week Bible study in addition to reading God’s Word to grow your understanding of heaven, so you’ll know what should be falling out of you.
* Do a morning devotional with someone that will hold you mutually accountable to growing in your understanding of heaven.
* Stay in your lane… Don’t try to change others… let heaven change you.
* If something or someone tries to stop you… bring heaven into it!
* Don’t be tricked into having God, let God have you!

If you want God to have you this morning, I invite you to come, kneel at the altar, or sit in the front row…

Ask God… You’re in a safe place.