

## ALPHA COUNSELING SERVICES

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Hello Friends,

I grew up reciting The Pledge of Allegiance and The Lord's Prayer in public school every morning until June 1963 when it was banned by the United States Supreme Court. I must admit that prayer did not have a great impact on me until I actually studied the details of the prayer as an adult but then what a difference it has made.

I am no longer able to say it without stumbling on the words. I begin to think about what I am saying and get all mixed up about where I am supposed to be in the prayer. That is not a bad thing because I don't think Jesus wanted us to just recite it but think as we pray.

Today I sometimes say the prayer at the beginning of my morning meditation. The more I dig into what Jesus gives us as a model the more I learn about prayer and how very important prayer was to Him while here on Earth.

The last part of the prayer; *For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, Amen*, is controversial because in some older manuscripts it is not include it. I happen to like it!

So, I did some research and found that that part of the prayer is very similar to a wonderful prayer by King David in First Chronicles 29. David was not allowed to build the temple for God so he held a major fund raising campaign to finance its building. In chapter 29 is recorded the results of his effort which brought in tons of gold and silver. At the dedication of these gifts King David prays a magnificent prayer.

Verse 10 *David said: Blessed are you ,O LORD, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever. 11. Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and power and glory and victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours.*

*Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all. 12. Both riches and honor come to you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, , and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all. 13. And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name...*

As I contemplate on David's words I hear myself praying similar words at the end of Jesus' instruction in prayer. ***Yours is the kingdom and power and glory!***

Do you live every day with this thought in the center of your activities? Hopefully we all do!

I am confronted every day with people, in person and in the media who are trying to build a kingdom at home or at work and wonder why they are so miserable. So many Christians are battling for power over problems in their lives. Fighting and squabbling for glory or credit for the battles they have won angry and defensive about the ones they have lost and miserable either way.

As we struggle with the virus and it's effect on our lives and now we add police brutality in Minnesota then riots in our streets causing destruction of our communities we need Christ to live His life in and through us by His power. Then we will see His kingdom, power, and glory ... Just like what we ask for in the Lord's Prayer.

Debi and I are doing alright. I'm seeing some people at the office and talking with others by phone. We keep serving as best as we can with the new limitations caused by all that is happening. We pray for peace in our nation and healing in the world. We pray for your wisdom and good health.

God bless you!

*Richard*