

Kingdom Prayer - Song Story by Dan Adler

From 1985 to 1996, I had the privilege of being the Worship Pastor at the Church of the Open Door in the Minneapolis area of Minnesota. The Senior Pastor, was Dave Johnson, and he and I worked very well together over those years.

One of the things I loved about Pastor Dave's preaching, is that it was expository – he went verse by verse through whole books of the Bible, sorting out each word in the original Greek and context. That sounds heady and boring, but it wasn't! It was very powerful, and the Spirit of God was really moving in our congregation during that time.

At some point, Pastor Dave was preaching through the book of Matthew and he came to Matthew 5 – the Beatitudes or the Sermon on the Mount. This is where Jesus said things like “Blessed are the poor in Spirit” – which Pastor Dave spoke of as meaning those who are broken or humbled in their spirit. Jesus said, “Blessed are those who mourn – for they shall be comforted”. Pastor Dave applied this to mean how when we mourn over our sins in repentance, we will be forgiven and comforted. And Jesus said, “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness – for they shall be filled.” Pastor Dave went on to preach about all the other “Blessed” passages as well and spoke about how this sermon described what “Kingdom People” looked like – that Jesus was building His kind of Kingdom and that it was made up of people like this. So, I was very inspired by these passages – and especially those first three. And one day, during this series, I just picked up my guitar and wrote this whole song in about a half an hour! That rarely happens to me! Usually writing a song is a long, thought-out process. But this just came and it was so powerful! Then when I showed it to Sandy and had her sing it, it just fit her vocal style and range so perfectly! It became a theme song in our church during that time. It has been published in several forms and we have recorded it on several different projects. But my favorite recording is the acapella version with the Heart of the City Band vocalists off of our “It All Belongs to You” CD. This song continues to be a prayer for me.

Kingdom Prayer Words and Music by Dan Adler

1. Lord, we're broken, broken hearted
Tired of going our own way
We've been proud and self-sufficient
But we're broken here today
Lord, we need Your power within us
For we have none of our own
Take this broken heart and mend it
With Thy power and Thine alone

2. Lord, we're mourning, mourning children
Mourning o'er the sins inside
For they're always right before us
Much too great for us to hide
Lord, we need Your power within us
For we have none of our own
Take this mourning heart and comfort
With Thy power and Thine alone

3. Lord, we hunger and we thirst for
Righteousness that's not our own
For we see our selfish motives
We need You to take Your throne
Lord, we need Your power within us
For we have none of our own
Take this hungry heart and fill it
With Thy power and Thine alone

Lord, make us Your Kingdom people
For we're nothing on our own
Do Your will and bring Your Kingdom
Fill our hearts and take Your throne

Copyright 1995, Pilot Point Music