

**“Priority Of Prayer”**  
**1 Timothy 2:1-7**  
**Prayer Week Sunday March 3, 2019**

**1 Timothy 2:1** – “First of all, then,” – “priority of importance”

**Timothy was not the Pastor of this church of Ephesus – 1 Timothy 1:3.**

**1 Timothy 1 – The Church and Its Message.**

**1 Timothy 2-3 – The Church and Its Members:** The Apostle Paul gives Timothy instructions regarding the public life of the local church –  
**1 Timothy 3:15.**

**1 Timothy 2:1-7 – The Place Of Prayer In The Fellowship: 1 Timothy 2:1**  
– **“First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers,”**

**Luke 11:1 – Prayer Is An Act of Worship!**

**Thought Of Our Passage:** Church Should Pray For All Men And Their Salvation Because Jesus Is The Source Of Prayer And Salvation.

**1. Verses 1-2 – The Objects Of Prayer**

**2. Verses 3-4 – The Reasons For Prayer**

**3. Verses 5-7 – The Basis For Prayer**

**1. Verses 1-2 – The Objects Of Prayer:**

1 Timothy 2:1 – “First of all, then,” – “priority of importance” – Warren W. Wiersbe, prayer was the “most important element in the public worship of the church”

“First of All Prayer Is An Act Of Worship!” – Luke 19:46 – “House of Prayer”

“I urge” – The forceful “I exhort” indicates “a strong, constant appeal.”

Luke 11:1-4

**4 Types of Prayer:**

- 1. “Entreaties”** – Lobbying – or “Supplications” – 19X NT. Root meaning – “to lack, to be deprived, or to be without something”. It is making requests for specific desires, needs. The word stresses the idea of intense entreaty, even to the point of begging. “Entreaties” can be directed to both to God and man.

James 5:16; 1 Peter 3:12

2. **"Prayers"** – Personalizing – 39X NT. "Prayers" are addressed only to God. Supplications can be directed to both to God and man. This term is the most general word used for prayer in the New Testament. Prayer – implies "worship, adoration, and reverence" – Bring those in view before God.
3. **"Petitions"** – Pleading – Intercessions – 2X NT. 1 Timothy 2:1; 4:5 – The root verb means, "to fall in with a person, to draw close to him; speech and communion" – Appealing boldly on their behalf.
4. **"Thanksgivings"** – Praising – "Thanksgivings" – The word means "to say something good to the one who has bestowed gracious gifts". Prayer and the "giving of thanks" are inseparable. Thanksgiving prevents selfishness and coldness in prayer – 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18.

"Ungrateful" spirit – Romans 1:21; 2 Timothy 3:2

Verses 1-2 – Objects of Prayer: **Paul lists 2 groups who are the object of the believers' prayers** – The verb "be made" shows that such prayer should be a constant priority within the church:

1. **All Men:** "behalf of all men," – First group is general. The classification "all men" includes the saved and the unsaved men and women. No racial, political, economic, or social class is excluded.
2. **Government Leaders:** 1 Timothy 2:2

Christians recognize that God has ordained the human institution of government – Romans 13:1.

1 Peter 2:17

"kings" – refers to "national leaders" – For each kingdom, there is a king.

"all who are in authority," – to all lesser government officials of various ranks.

"so that we may lead a" – "may lead" refers to "the daily lifestyle."

## **2 Purposes Of Prayer:**

- 1. The Purpose of Prayer Is A Peaceful Life** – “tranquil” – “peaceable” – emphasizes that believers will not need to protest verbally any mistreatment.

“quiet life” – “The absence of international war; the cessation of internal anarchy.”

1 Thessalonians 4:11

- 2. The Purpose of Prayer Is Godliness & Honesty** – “in all godliness” – “our devotion as believers to God, proper attitude.”

“and dignity.” – describes “that which is honorable, serious, and grave, moral earnestness, proper behavior”. The general character of the person himself.

Titus 3:1-2

## **2. Verses 3-4 – The Reasons For Prayer:**

1 Timothy 2:3 – “This” – points back to prayer which has **2 divinely approved reasons:**

- 1. “This is “good”** – “being “intrinsically good” – This is a key word in the epistle used 18X. Not good in the sense of what it does but it is “good” in itself.
- 2. Such prayer is “acceptable”** – stresses the idea of “a warm, joyful reception” – Prayer thus is welcomed by God and will be answered by God.

Prayer is – “good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour” – There is only one God, and only He can save.

### **Prayer Benefits The Lost.**

God Wills Men To Be Saved: 1 Timothy 2:4 – “who” – Paul just spoke about 1 Timothy 2:3 – “God our Saviour” – Prayer for the lost is based upon the redemptive program of God.

“who desires all men to be saved” – The will of God is both simple and complex – Ephesians 1:11.

The verb "desires" or "will" – "because He wills the salvation of all, marking a determinate purpose."

2 Peter 3:9 – The word "wishing" (willing) – "out of deliberation."

"who desires all men to be saved" – It means all people without distinction – John 5:40; Acts 16:31.

The group "all men" – Believers can pray for all men to be saved – John 12:32.

1 John 2:2

Jesus' gracious invitation: Matthew 11:28.

That appeal can be either accepted or rejected – John 3:15.

God Will All Men To Come To The Truth: "to come to the knowledge of the truth."

"knowledge" – denotes "a thorough understanding."

Truth about God centers in the person of Jesus Christ. He declared it – John 14:6.

John 8:32; 2 Thessalonians 2:13

John 17:3

### **3. Verses 5-7 – The Basis For Prayer:**

1 Timothy 2:5 – The conjunction "For" introduces the explanation that "Prayer is based on the work of Jesus Christ as Saviour and Mediator."

#### **Jesus Christ's Work And Salvation:**

Verse 5 – Jesus Christ Is The Mediator: "For there is one God,"

Deuteronomy 6:4-5; Isaiah 45:22; 1 Corinthians 8:6

"mediator" – "a go-between, an empire" – One way of salvation.

Man, not God, needs reconciliation – Romans 5:10; 2 Corinthians 5:19.

“the man Christ Jesus,” – “the man” – He has the same human nature as all other members of the human race, Hebrews 2:14, 16. 1 Timothy 1:15 – “came into”

In his concern, Job confessed – Job 9:32-33.

Verse 6 – Jesus Christ Is The Ransom: 1 Timothy 2:6 – (Jesus) “who gave” – looks back to the death of Christ on the cross.

“ransom” – is a compound word; “in the place of” – Christ declared that He came to give his life – “a ransom for all” – Matthew 20:28; Mark 10:45.

“for all,” – Christ died on behalf of all and in the place of all.

Jesus Christ’s Death Fulfilled Bible Prophecy Of Redemption – “testimony given at the proper time.” – Genesis 3:15; Luke 3:23-38; Galatians 4:4-5.

Verse 7 – Paul’s Ministry Of Salvation: 1 Timothy 2:7 – “For this” – can literally be translated “unto which;” Paul was “appointed” – “ordained”

Paul The Preacher – “a preacher”

Paul The Apostle – “and an apostle”

Paul The Teacher – “as a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.”

“in faith and truth” – Note “faith” – is the means, and “truth” is the content.

### **Application:**

1. The Church’s Prayers Should Be For All Men And Governmental Leaders. Saved and Unsaved. To Ignore Lost Souls Is To Ignore The Cross.
2. God’s Purpose Through Prayer Is That We Might Experience A Peaceful Life, And That We Would Live A Life Filled With Godliness And Honesty.
3. God’s Desire Is For All People To Be Saved And To Come To The Knowledge Of The Truth.
4. Prayer’s Source Is To Be Found In The Person And Work Of Jesus Christ As Both Saviour And Mediator.