

Message Notes Pastor Steve Durand

Date: October 7, 2018 **Bible Focus:** 1 Timothy 2:1-8

Current Series: Think Biblically

Message Title: How Prayer Changes the World

The priority: We are to pray . . .

- _____.

- _____.

The motivation: We are to pray, because . . .

- _____.

- _____.

- _____.

"The _____ of the gospel in the world is dependent on the _____ of God's people in the church." (David Platt)

Questions for Reflection and Discussion

1 Timothy 2:1-8

1. In what way is praying the easiest thing to do? In what way is it difficult?
2. Verse 1 says that we are to pray for all kinds of people. What different kinds of people are there in your life? In what ways are their prayer needs different from one another? In what ways are their prayer needs the same?
3. What kinds of prayers does this passage indicate you ought to pray for politicians and leaders? Should these prayers be limited by whether or not you agree with a particular leader? How might praying for such authorities affect your attitude towards them?
4. What is the connection between praying for all those in authority and our living "peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness" (v. 2)? How might the former lead to the latter, and why would this be important to us as Christ-followers?
5. Why are verses 5-6 so foundational to one's understanding of how one is "saved"? Why might it be dangerous to misunderstand or to misinterpret these verses? What doctrinal errors might Paul be trying to address? Do you ever hear or encounter teaching in our world today that contradicts these verses?
6. In light of verse 5, how would you answer someone who objects to the Bible's teaching that there is *only one* way to God (through personal faith in Jesus' substitutionary sacrifice on the cross), not multiple ways? What about the claim that there is *only one* God, not multiple gods?
7. What might it mean that Jesus is our *mediator*? What does it mean that he gave himself as a *ransom* for all people? From what do we need to be ransomed?
8. What priority does praying for the spread of the gospel message around the world and praying for others to come to saving faith have in your life? Do you ever pray for unbelievers by name? If not, why not?
9. What adjustments, steps, or commitments do you need to make today in order for your prayer life to more closely resemble the type of praying to which this passage calls us?