

Church Life: Much Prayer, Much Power! No Prayer, No Power!

1 Timothy 2:1-8

Introduction:

E.M. Bounds writes in his book, “Purpose in Prayer”

“When we calmly reflect upon the fact that the progress of our Lord’s kingdom is dependent upon prayer, it is sad to think that we give so little time to the holy exercise. Everything depends on prayer, and yet we neglect it – not only to our own spiritual hurt, but also to the delay and injury of our Lord’s cause upon the earth. The forces of good and evil are contending for the world. If we would pray, we could add to the conquering power of the army of righteousness; and yet our lips are sealed, our hands hang listlessly by our side, and by holding back from the prayer chamber we jeopardize the very cause in which we profess to be deeply interested...” (pg 22)

1. Prayer is the _____ of Church Life. (2:1a)

“First of all” - this indicates how prayer is of most importance in the worship service and the gatherings of believers.

2. Prayer is Demonstrated in a _____ of Ways (2:1b)

- _____ - “offering a request for a felt need”
- _____ - “emphasis on the sacredness of prayer”
- _____ - “petitions” -To draw near to a person and converse confidently with him.
- _____ of _____ - “giving thanks for everything; this is God’s will.

3. Prayer is Focused on the Word’s Intended _____ (2:1c-2)

- We pray for _____ of nations.

- We pray for those in _____.
- We pray for _____.

4. Prayer is Built Upon Biblical _____ to Pray (2:3-4)

- Prayer is _____ to the Lord.
- Prayer is vital to the spread of the _____.
- Prayer is powerful in seeing people _____.

5. Prayer is Effective Because _____ is the Basis of Prayer (2:5-7)

- Jesus Christ - The God-Man; Mediator

“We pray for all because Christ died for all and it is God’s will that all be saved.”

6. Prayer Should Express a Proper _____ in It’s Practice (2:8)

- The _____ of the heart - “lifting up holy hands”
- “Without _____” - in right relationship with others
- “Without _____” - literally, “without disputing”

Conclusion:

"The true man of God is heartsick, grieved at the worldliness of the Church...grieved at the toleration of sin in the Church, grieved at the prayerlessness in the Church. He is disturbed that the corporate prayer of the Church no longer pulls down the strongholds of the devil."

-Leonard Ravenhill