

Weekly Bulletin

BEFORE ANYTHING ELSE

1 Timothy 2:1–7

INTRODUCTION - Prayer often becomes what we do after everything else has failed. Paul puts it somewhere very different: at the forefront of the church's responsibility.

BIG IDEA - Prayer is not the church's last resort; it is one of the church's first responsibilities.

1. THE P_____ OF PRAYER — vv. 1–2

Before the church acts, organizes, confronts, or corrects, the church must **pray**.

- Pray for **all people**, not merely those closest to us.
- Pray for **kings and all who are in authority**.
- **Matthew 5:44** reminds us to pray even for those who oppose us.

2. THE P_____ OF PRAYER — vv. 3–4

We pray for all people because God desires people to be **saved and come to the knowledge of the truth**.

- God's saving concern should shape **our concern**.
- No person or group should be placed beyond our prayers.
- **Romans 10:1** connects our heart's desire and prayer with the salvation of others.

3. THE P_____ OF PRAYER — vv. 5–7

God has provided the only way sinful people can be reconciled to Him: **Jesus Christ**.

- There is **one God**.
- There is **one Mediator**, Christ Jesus.
- Christ **gave Himself as a ransom for all**.

KEY SCRIPTURES

1 Timothy 2:1–7 • Matthew 5:44 • John 14:6 • Romans 10:1 • Romans 10:13 • Acts 4:12

TAKE IT HOME

1. Who is missing from my prayers?
2. Who have I complained about more than I have prayed for?
3. Whose salvation am I praying for, and am I willing for God to use me to share the gospel with them?

“We pray because God saves. We proclaim because Christ is the Mediator. We go because the gospel is for all people.”

Soli Deo Gloria