

SHARING JESUS WITH OTHERS

WEDNESDAYS @ 7:00 PM



Sharing Starts with Prayer

Sharing Christ with Others: Part 2

1st Timothy 2:1-8

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people— ²for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. ³This is good, and pleases God our Savior, ⁴who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

1st Timothy 2:1-8

⁵ For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time. ⁷ And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle—I am telling the truth, I am not lying—and a true and faithful teacher of the Gentiles.⁸ Therefore I want the men everywhere to pray, lifting up holy hands without anger or disputing.

Introduction

Praying for our own personal needs may be easy, but what do we pray beyond that? We can certainly pray for others, and when we see obvious, physical needs, we know what to pray. But we should pray for others in another way that's not as obvious as physical needs.

We should pray for the spiritual needs of others, and we can begin by praying for their salvation.

Introduction

Paul opened this letter to Timothy with a warning about false teachers among the believers in Ephesus where Timothy was pastoring.

The Apostle Paul in chapter 2 examines the power of prayer and the role it plays in sharing the gospel with those who need to meet Jesus.

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people— ² for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

1st Timothy 2:1-2

Verse 1: One of the tools that Paul stated that Timothy had at his disposal when it came to sharing Christ was prayer.

Paul urged Timothy to sharing Christ with others by praying for them.

- In order to effectively share Christ with others prayer must be a priority in your life.
- The first order of business in the church is to Pray.
 - *Colossians 4:2* – “Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.”

Paul identified four ways Christians can reach out to God in prayer: *petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving*.

- **Petitions**: a request made for something personally desired, especially a respectful or humble request, as to a superior or to one of those in authority
 - *Psalm 37:4* – “Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.”
- **Prayers**: is a general term used in the N.T. describing all types of prayer.
 - *Ephesians 6:18* – “And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.”

- **Intercession**: A prayer/supplication on behalf of someone else.
 - ***Romans 8:34*** – “Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.”
- Thanksgiving: expression of thanks, words of gratefulness.
 - ***1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*** – “Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

Paul told Timothy that these types of prayers should be made for all people.

Verse 2: In praying for both believers and unbelievers Paul specifically highlighted kings and those in authority.

- Paul’s statement here was as remarkable then as it is now. In Paul’s day Nero was Emperor of Rome. Nero was infamously known for persecuting believers. ***Yet Paul instructed Timothy and us to still pray for leaders like Nero for 2 reasons.***

We are to pray for leaders in authority for 2 reasons:

- **Their Salvation:**

- *Acts 4:12 - Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."*

- **For peace to share Christ with others**

- Praying for political and appointed leaders means also praying for their leadership and policies. Their policies can benefit the spreading of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

- There is a cause and effect to prayer.

- **Q: Who do you need to pray for?** *(create a list, pray for their salvation, and for the needs to be met).*

This is good, and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time.

1 Timothy 2:3-6

Verse 3 -4: The primary goal of believers is to please God who saved them. Our second goal is to make disciples.

Paul emphasized that God wants all people to be saved.

- God's desire is for every person to experience forgiveness and reconciliation with God.
 - ***2 Corinthians 5:17-19*** – “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.”
- While this is God's desire, God has given humanity free will to either choose or reject God's offer of Salvation through Christ. God will not force anyone into relationship with God.

In verse 4 Paul stated that as believers are to share the Truth with others so they will know it for themselves.

- The word “*Truth*” here in Greek means – not disclosed or hidden?
 - By sharing Christ with other we are unveiling the truth about Jesus and the difference between life with or without Jesus.
 - ***John 1:4-7*** – “In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe.”
- When one accept the truth there is the initial act of conversion and the experiential understanding that comes from living out one’s faith.

Verse 5: Paul noted that there is only one mediator who can reconcile humanity with God.

- Sin separated us from our creator. Jesus' blood bridged the gap between God and people, reconciling to God those who repent and place their faith in Him.
 - ***John 14:6*** - Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."
 - ***Hebrews 9:15*** – "For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance—now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant."

In Verse 5 Paul referred to Jesus as a man. Jesus was both 100% human and divine. His humanity didn't diminish his divinity.

- ***Jesus' humanity ushered our salvation. He lived, suffered, and died so our sins could be forgiven because he never sinned.***

Verse 6: The text says that Jesus gave Himself as a ransom for all people. The Greek term “antilytron” for ransom is unique. Its only used once in all of the N.T.

- Jesus’ life was ransomed in exchanged for our soul salvation.
 - We see this concept of Jesus being ransomed also in Mark’s Gospel.
 - **Mark 10:45** - “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”
 - Sin caused us to be spiritually dead. Thus, Jesus paid the price for our sins that we could not pay.

As Jesus became our ransom, we must share that he did it willingly.

- Paul says that Jesus gave himself. This speaks the fact that Jesus willingly endured suffering and death that we might be saved.

Jesus willingly did this for everyone.

- His death is a testament of God’s love for everyone. Yet everyone must decide for themselves. ***Which is why we must pray that everyone will come to accept this truth!***

And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle—I am telling the truth; I am not lying—and a true and faithful teacher of the Gentiles. Therefore, I want the men everywhere to pray, lifting up holy hands without anger or disputing.

1 Timothy 2:7-8

Verse 7: Paul asserts that he has been called to be a herald of the Truth about Jesus and the salvation he provides.

- In biblical times a herald announced important news, often on behalf of a king or leader.
 - Paul faithfully fulfilled his mission across Asia Minor, Europe all the way to Rome and Spain.

Q: Where and with whom are you sharing Christ with others?

- He says that was an apostle (a messenger sent by Jesus)
 - Paul often had to defend his apostleship because unlike the other disciples, he met Jesus after his resurrection and ascension while on his way to Damascus to persecute believers.
 - Paul's background makes for a good testimony. God can use anyone even those with a past to share the truth with the world.

Don't let your yesterday stop you from sharing Christ today and tomorrow!

Paul also identified himself as a teacher.

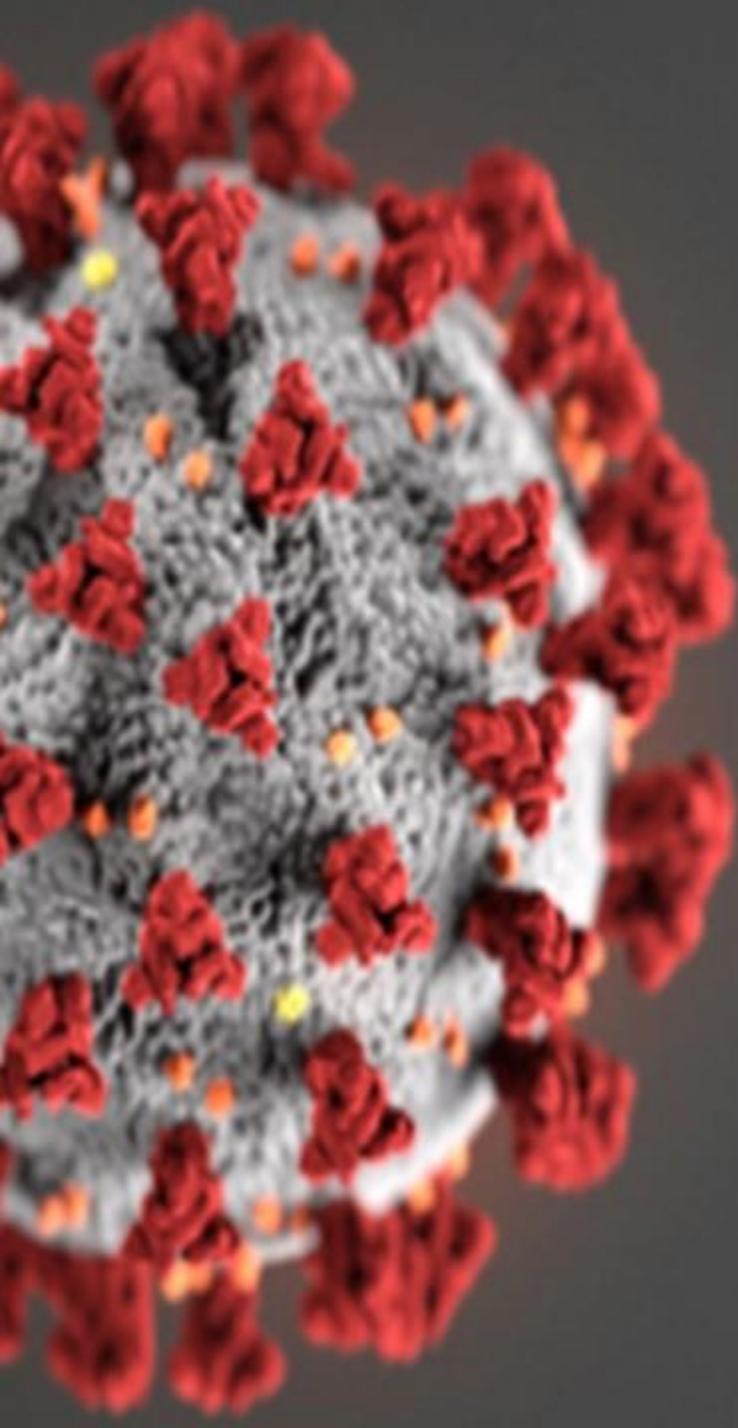
Teaching, like preaching, was an integral part of the work of an apostle

- ***Ephesians 4:1***– “4 I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called”

Verse 8: Paul recognizing that he was called to be a messenger for the One Mediator (Christ) he wanted everyone to pray.

- Every individual is to pray for the salvation of others. Since the gospel is offered and available to all, prayers for salvation should not be limited by geography.
- By telling Timothy this Paul encourage Tim and his congregation to Pray for the unbelievers in Ephesus. And we are to do the same and pray for those where we are.

- When Paul said that he wants men to pray.
 - In the Greek the word for men is not genderless. Paul was intentionally speaking to Males here. Later in chapter 2 Paul would address the women in Ephesus.
 - However, this doesn't mean that only men should pray for the salvation of the everyone. This call is for all of us regardless of gender.
- Paul concluded with saying that as we pray that we should do without anger or disputes.
 - Our relationship with others can hurt our worship and prayer life.
 - **Matthew 5:23-24** – “Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.”



COVID-19

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