

1 Timothy
The Challenge of Being the Church
1 Timothy 2:1-7 (page 829)

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Frank Mascaro

The church is first and foremost to be a community of worship
(2 Tim 2:1-7; Rom 12:1-2; 15:16; Acts 13:2; 2 Cor 9:12)

Paul's first two priorities for Timothy were that the church was to be:

- grounded in the truth (1 Tim 1:1-20)
- a worshipping community (1 Tim 2:1-15)

As the church, we are to pray to God for all people (2:1-2)

- We are to pray for all kinds of people (v 1)
- We are to pray for those in authority (v 2)

The reason: peaceful conditions facilitate the
proclamation of the gospel (v 2; Rom 13:1-7)

As the church, we are to pray because God's desire concerns
all people (2:3-4; Eze 33:11; 2 Peter 3:9)

As the church, we are to pray because Christ's death concerns
all people (2:5-6)

- There is one God who deserves the honor of all people
(v 5a; Isa 45:21-22)
- There is one mediator between the one God and all people
(v 5b; Job 9:33; Isa 53:6; John 14:6)
- There is one ransom that has been paid for all people
(v 6; Matt 20:28; Heb 9:15; 10:19-23)

As the church, we are to pray because because our mission
concerns all people (2:7)

- Becoming aligned with God's will for the salvation of others is
central to our worship of God now and in the future
(Rev 5:8-10; 6:9-12; 8:3-4)

Making it stick....

How important is truth to you? Where is your truth sourced? What are you doing to grow in your understanding of the Scriptures? _____

How does the knowledge of God's truth affect your attitude toward worship? Do you come to service each week ready to be in God's presence to worship or do you come for other reasons? Explain. _____

How would you characterize your prayer life? Is there a need to develop that area of your life? How might you begin to do that? _____

Do you pray for the people God has brought all around you in the various arenas of your life? Do you pray for those who are leaders in significant places? Our government? _____

Has the message today impacted your attitude about prayer as worship of God and becoming concerned with what concerns Him? Do you think that would affect or change the way you choose to live? Is pleasing God with your life an important issue to you? _____

Has this morning's passage caused you to think more about the scope and global concern of the Gospel message and its significance to God's purpose? Do you think the church should embrace and engage in prayer to that end? Explain. _____

How does the person and work of Jesus Christ in relation to all people (vs 5-6) affect how you think about salvation? In what ways does it amaze, or make you think about, the work of God in your life and the lives of all people? _____

Do you think any differently about prayer and worship after today? About God's bigger purposes for the church in relation to all people? How, in what way(s)? _____