

Prayer Duty: The Role of Prayer

1 Timothy 2:1,2

Introduction:

- Prayer is both a privilege and a d_____.
- 1. Only true b_____ have this privilege (God does not consider the prayers of an unbeliever because they are cut off from Him).
- 2. 1 Tim 2:1,2 gives prayer as our Christian duty.
 - a. *First of all* – can mean first in order (first of several things) or first in i_____.
 - b. The context favors the latter definition.
 - 1) *Therefore* – refers to the previous context of fighting the good fight.
 - 2) *Therefore, in light of the fact that I have entrusted you with the command to fight the good fight, I urge as of first importance that prayers of all kinds be made...*
- Prayer makes a d_____. (If it did not, there would be no reason to pray).

The role prayer plays in p_____’s lives

- The prayers prayed
 1. In the Greek text there is no *and* that connects the string of words: entreaties, prayers, petitions, thanksgivings. This means that e_____ kind of prayer is to be made.
 2. The Greek text, the action of the words *be made* is in a tense that emphasizes on_____ action.
 3. Paul is urging Timothy to make sure that prayers are continually being made for all people by the c_____.
- All kinds of prayer are to be made for _____ people
 1. This cannot mean e_____ person in the world
 2. It means that we are not to l_____ our prayers to certain people (e.g. friends and family); don’t refuse to pray for an e_____ or a person you dislike.
- How can we apply this to our church?
 1. Pray for those listed in the prayer bulletin, even the ones you don’t know.
 2. Understand that prayer makes a d_____.

The role prayer plays in p_____

- Paul gives a specific example of those Christians may neglect to

pray for – k_____ and all those in authority.

1. At the time of this writing, the R_____ Empire was the world empire which ruled the vast territory in which Christianity was spreading.
 2. N_____ was the Roman emperor.
 - a. He implemented p_____ against Christians.
 - b. He eventually executed P_____ and P_____.
 3. Believers are to pray for such leaders, not a_____ them.
- How do we apply this?
1. Christians ought to be known as the greatest prayer s_____ of governmental leaders.
 2. Pray for our president, our governor, our city leaders, etc.
 - a. Pray for w_____ to be given them.
 - b. Pray for their s_____ if they are not believers.
 - c. Pray that g_____ people surround them.
 3. Remember some key scriptures
 - a. 2 Chronicles 7:14 – God p_____ Israel for not praying.
 - b. James 4:2,3 – Sometimes God does not a_____ because we have failed to ask or ask with wrong motives.

The role prayer plays in p_____ living

●The two words that relate to peacefulness cover:

1. I_____ peace
 - a. Prayer is a means that we relinquish c_____ to God.
 - b. This frees us from w_____ since He is sovereign.
2. O_____ peace – prayer cultivate h_____ with those we are praying for since it demonstrates compassion.

●The two boundaries of peacefulness

1. G_____
 - a. Literally means, g_____ worship and so refers to our relationship with God.
 - b. We must not compromise our relationship with God for the sake of h_____.
2. Dignity (NIV – holiness; KJV – *honesty*) refers to our p_____ before people.
 - a. We are not to act p_____ or elevate ourselves.
 - b. We must act r_____ even when we disagree.

●Is your life chaotic (inwardly or outwardly)? – maybe you need to practice praying as these 2 verses urge.