

## First Things First | 1 Timothy 2:1-7

First of all, then, I urge that supplication, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgiving be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

### The Priority of Prayer

#### 1. Prayer reveals our theology

- a. Supplication
- b. Prayers
- c. Intercessions
- d. Thanksgiving

#### 2. Prayer reveals our heart

- a. "You'll discover nests of cynicism, pride, and self-will in your heart. You will be unmasked. None of us like being exposed. We have an allergic reaction to dependency, but this is the state of the heart most necessary for a praying life. A needy heart is a praying heart. Dependency is the heartbeat of prayer." (Paul Miller)

#### 2. Prayer reveals our heart for people

#### 3. Prayer reveals our heart for the gospel

### The Posture of God's Heart

#### 1. The heart of God for people

- a. Providential will
- b. Moral will

#### 2. There is One God

- "...And there is no other god besides me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none besides me. Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other." (Isaiah 45: 21b-22)
- a. Jesus is our mediator
- b. Jesus is our substitute
  - i. "No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father." (John 10:18)
- c. Jesus paid our ransom

## The Posture of Our Heart

1. The church is the fruit of the gospel