

Lesson: A Witness to the World – 1 Timothy 2:1-15

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Overview:

In 1 Timothy chapter 2, Paul transitions from his personal focus on Timothy (1 Timothy 1:18–20) and a general reference to sound doctrine (1 Timothy 1:3–20) to information regarding worship practices in the church. Two major areas are developed in this chapter. These include prayer in the church (1 Timothy 2:1–8) and the role of women in spiritual leadership (1 Timothy 2:9–15).

Objectives:

- A Call to Prayer (1 Timothy 2:1-4)
- One God and One Mediator (1 Timothy 2:5-8)
- Women in the church (1 Timothy 2:9-11)
- Assurance for Women (1 Timothy 2:12-15)
- Summary

Discussion Questions

A Call to Prayer

1. Who does Paul instruct believers to pray for in this passage, and what is the ultimate goal of their praying for _____ and respecting _____.
2. Living a quiet life is _____ and _____ to God. Why do you think living in such a way reflects well on Christ?
3. What is God's desire for all people (see verses 3-4)?

One God and One Mediator

4. Paul stresses there is only one God, there is only “one Mediator between God and men.” Why is Jesus the only one who can fill the role of Mediator (see verses 5-6)?
5. Paul was concerned with the _____ of any barriers to the Christian community uniting in _____ prayer. How does Paul say believers can truly be united in prayer (see verse 8)?

Women in the Church

6. What was the standard that Paul called on the women of Ephesus to achieve (see verse 9-11)?
7. Paul uses the term _____ as it pertains to women in the church which likely refers back to his instruction for all believers to lead “a _____ and _____ life” (2:2).
8. Why would this be important given Paul’s emphasis on the church being a model to the outside world?

Assurance for Women

9. I do not let women _____ men or have _____ over them. Let them listen quietly.

10. In Paul's day if women were to teach or have authority over men in a public gathering how do you think this would have affected the church and everything Paul was trying to achieve?

11. What does Paul say that women (and men) must persist in doing to assure they will be saved (see verse 15)?

Summary

Paul emphasizes to Timothy that the call to prayer is also a call to think about God and His work in humanity. He encourages believers to pray for everyone-including those in authority. Paul then reminds Timothy that Jesus is able to serve as a Mediator between believers and God because He gave Himself as a sacrifice in their place. Paul then stresses the particular roles of men and women in public gatherings that he expects his churches to follow. Above all, the church must look to Christ and not conform to the stereotypes of the world. Furthermore, believers must demonstrate the healing and freedom enacted by the good news of Jesus' work.