

S.A.F.E. Homes



Strengthening Apostolic Families Everywhere



“I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men” 1 Timothy 2:1

A Prayer of Thanks

The rest of this month we are having an emphasis on thankfulness. Evidently the Apostle Paul thought that this subject was important enough to instruct his son in the Lord, Timothy, to give priority to in his life. But notice in our focus verse that Paul is not urging Timothy to simply thank God for all the wonderful things in his life. As a matter of fact, Paul does not even mention the blessings of the Lord in this verse. Timothy is instructed to give thanks for all men!

In our Christian walk, we often find ourselves praying for others, as the first part of this verse mentions. At times we may make supplication, which means to make a request to God for someone else. There may have even been times when you have made intercessory prayer where you plead with great intensity for God to do something for someone in your life. Perhaps you have heard stories of great heroes of our faith who made intercessory prayer and saw miraculous things happen. But to give thanks for all men? That is a whole different focus.

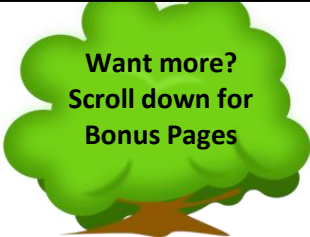
To offer thanks is to make an expression of gratitude. All of us have many people in our lives who impact our lives on a daily basis. These may be people that we go to school with, work with, meet at the store, go to church with, or live with. The building of relationships takes a lot of work and the Apostle Paul knew this. Many times in his writings to the church he gave thanks for his fellow laborers. One time he said, *“I thank my God upon every remembrance of you” (Philippians 1:3).*

Paul practiced what he preached. He gave honor and thanksgiving to people in authority, his fellow believers, family members, and even complete strangers. He even included them in his prayers. Do you have a relationship that needs a facelift? When you pray, try being thankful for the people in your life. It may give you a whole new perspective!

Family Prayer: Dear Jesus, first of all I want to thank You for saving me. I also want to thank You for all the people You have placed in my life to bless me. I pray for Your blessings on them, as well. In Jesus' name, Amen.



Includes
Family
Activities



Want more?
Scroll down for
Bonus Pages

Looking



Inward

It's sometimes easier to be thankful for those in our immediate circle. But what about the kid in line beside you at the grocery store, the mail person, or the lady working in your lunchroom? Every day this week give a sincere compliment to someone that you normally wouldn't. Create a planner to record your behavior and the person's reaction. At the end of the week, share your notes with family members. Did being thankful for those people make a difference in their lives? Did it make a difference in you?

Let's talk

The second verse of 1 Timothy 1 talks about praying for and giving thanks for kings and people in authority. Do you think it is important to pray for those in leadership in our nation? Take a look at Verse 2 and discuss *why* we need to pray for these people.



Using the Apostle Paul's example, make a list of people who have impacted your life in a positive way. Choose one or more of these names and send a note of thankfulness. They will be blessed by your thoughtfulness and you will be blessed by your thankfulness!

Looking



Outward

Additional Challenges

Let's examine 1 Timothy 2:1-8.

Explain the 4 types of things the Apostle Paul exhorts us to do in verse 1.

Supplications:

Prayers:

Intercessions:

Giving of thanks:

What are the effects of doing these things?

What does the Lord think about it?

God desires what for all men?

Complete the following:

I will therefore that men _____ everywhere, _____ up _____ hands,
without _____ and _____.

***Remember to pray for authority figures in your daily prayer time
and intercede on their behalf.***

Puzzle Page

T H A N K F U L N E S S S X X
I S T R A N G E R S B P U W J
G N Y X U R O E S O I P P S X
O V T T V J Y J Z H E Z P R E
J G C E I A U Y S R B S L E M
I H B X R R I N S E G I I V P
T D U P R C O P D N N K C E H
S X V M B I E H I S T X A I A
E M J H T C Y S T E P R T L S
U E S A T K S R S U H M I E I
Q N L I T E U J Q O A O O B S
E E V G L C E J J D R L N Y Q
R E O B T N O T I C E Y R O Z
Q P Z C S U O L U C A R I M R
J P P S R E R O B A L V V G S

AUTHORITY
EMPHASIS
INTERCESSORY
MIRACULOUS
PRAYER
STRANGERS

BELIEVERS
HONOR
LABORERS
NOTICE
RELATIONSHIPS
SUPPLICATION

BLESSINGS
INSTRUCT
MEN
PERSPECTIVE
REQUEST
THANKFULNESS

