

## **Growing Strong in Faith | Part 3**

Lesson 9

1 Timothy 2:1-8

June 4, 2023

### **What Happens When We Pray?**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

God knows all things. He is timeless, omniscient, and omnipresent. He knows who we are, what we need, and how we are living our day-to-day lives.

And yet, He specifically calls us to pray. He *urges* us to pray to Him. This tells us that there is importance to prayer that goes beyond what we might understand on a superficial level—that prayer contains more power and utility than we can know.

What's more, in His word we learn again and again that prayer reaches the ears of God to affect change, turn hearts, and please Him. There is tremendous power in prayer—power to encourage, strengthen, instruct, comfort, and so much more. If we earnestly pray to our Lord, what might we be able to accomplish?

***Memory verse: "For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus...."***

***—1 Timothy 2:5***

Pray, and read 1 Timothy 2:1-8. What questions or observations do you have about this passage?

**OBSERVATION: What does the passage say?**

1. What kinds of prayers does Paul urge Timothy and his flock to offer? (1 Timothy 2:1)
2. Who is the intended beneficiary of these prayers? (1 Timothy 2:2)
3. What effect on God is described regarding intercessory prayer of this kind? (1 Timothy 2:3)
4. Who is our mediator, and between whom is His mediation? (1 Timothy 2:5-6a)
5. What does Paul claim about himself and for what purpose? (1 Timothy 2:6b-7)

## **INTERPRETATION: What do the passages mean?**

1. How do the intercessory and thanksgiving prayers for leaders help? (1 Timothy 2:1-2; 1 Peter 2:13-17)
2. Why do prayers of this kind please God? What is His desire for all people? (Jeremiah 29:7; Matthew 5:44; 1 Timothy 2:3-4)
3. What is meant by “mediator,” and how did Christ Jesus provide a ransom? (Matthew 20:28; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; Hebrews 9:15)

4. Paul makes a point of requesting that people pray without anger or disputing. Why is it significant that he mentions this? (Romans 14:19; 1 Corinthians 1:10; Philippians 2:14-15)

**APPLICATION: How do the passages apply to your life?**

1. How should you respond to this call to pray, and in what spirit should you offer your prayers to God? Do you?

