

I Timothy: Lesson #55 – What God Expects of Men and Women

Notes for Parents to Study with Their Children

For Sunday, Nov. 23rd

Read I Tim. 2:1-15 (a simplified explanation of the text is supplied at the end of these notes).

Memory Verse: I Tim. 2:5 “For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.”

The Importance of Prayer

- Paul said that we should be praying for everyone. Prayer includes...
 - ⇒ ...Going to God to ask Him to give us the things we need. Physical things like food, clothing and shelter, or spiritual things like wisdom, strength and the forgiveness of sins. This reminds us that all good things come from God’s hand.
 - ⇒ ...Asking God to help others. We can pray for our family, for the people at church, for our friends, for our country, and even for people that don’t treat very good.
 - ⇒ ...Offering our thanks to God for who He is and all that He has blessed us with. It is very important to be thankful to God and to count our blessings.
- We said we can pray for our country and Paul explains that more. He said we could pray for the people that lead our country. In Paul’s day there were Kings, but in our time we can pray for the president, and for other government people that lead our country. One of the things we can ask God to do is help them to make decisions that would let us live our lives as Christians -- that our lives wouldn’t be harmed or disrupted, but that we could serve God in a peaceful way.
- Paul says that God would be pleased with these kind of prayers.
- We should remember when we pray that Jesus is our Mediator. What does that mean? It means that God is very great and holy, and that we are just human beings that do things that are wrong sometimes. But Jesus is our Mediator and that means that He stands between us and God asking the Father to forgive us and help us. Jesus is especially wonderful for that work because He is God, but He has also lived like a man. He knows what it’s like to be tempted and can help us overcome. He is only Mediator – no one else could do what He does. This is part of the reason that when we pray, we ask our prayer “in Jesus name.”
- Pray for opportunities to teach other people about God. God wants everyone to have an opportunity to be saved.

What God Expects of Men

- Paul talks to men about what how God expects them to live. When men pray, no matter where and when they live, what does God want them to be like?
 - ⇒ **Holy** – He wants these men to keep their lives separate from the way the world acts. Christians sin, but they shouldn’t be living a life of constant sin. They should live for God, worship God and serve God.

- ⇒ **No Anger** – God does not want to see a man who is angry all the time, a man who loses his temper and speaks harshly, and acts mean to people. If men go around mad at people all the time, God won't listen to their prayers.
- ⇒ **No Arguing** – When God looks at men who pray, He wants them to be people who don't argue and fight all the time. They can get along with others.

What God Expects of Women

Women should also want to do right and please God.

- **About How They Dress.** One thing that God says is important for women to consider is the way they dress. Paul tells us several things about what a Christian woman should think about when she chooses her clothing.
 - ⇒ **Good sense.** What makes good sense as far as a Christian is concerned. We can't let the world decide what's good. We have to think about the things that God teaches. Christian women have to think if their dress might show too much of their bodies. They have to think about whether something is appropriate to wear to church. They have to think about whether they are spending too much time and money on clothing. They have to think about whether they are spending enough time on making sure that their inner person is beautiful (I Pet. 3:3-4).
 - ⇒ **A Sense of Shame.** A Christian woman would never want to put on something she should be ashamed of. Some clothing doesn't cover us up enough. When Adam and Eve realized they were without clothing, they were ashamed. People should be ashamed if they don't have enough clothing on. So clothing should be chosen that wouldn't make you ashamed or other Christians ashamed of you.
 - ⇒ **What is Proper.** This means you have taken the time to think about what is appropriate to wear. And that you have studied God's Word to be sure you are doing what would please God.
 - ⇒ **What Fits a Woman Who Claims to Be Godly.** The clothing we wear should match what we claim. Christians claim to be godly, righteous, and holy. They claim that they want to serve God. The clothing we put on our bodies should never say something else. It shouldn't say we are really worldly, ungodly, and trying to make ourselves popular with everyone else.
- **About Their Role in Teaching.** Women have every right to teach children (Prov. 31:1) and teach other women (Titus 3:3-5). When they are not in the church assembly they have the right to teach in Bible studies making comments about God's Word (Acts 18:24-26). But God says that Christian women must not teach under some circumstances:
 - ⇒ **Women Must Learn in Silence.** Paul indicates that women should not disrupt the church assembly with comments or questions, but should learn in silence. As already explained, when out of the assembly, a woman can take part in teaching a man, but she should still appreciate that man is head over woman (I Cor. 11:3).
 - ⇒ **Women Must Not Teach Over A Man.** Since women are told not to speak in the assembly (I Cor. 14:34-35), they can never be preachers that stand before the whole church and preach. Here in I Timothy Paul also says that they cannot teach

over a man. That means that they cannot show authority over a man, like leading a class with grown men in the class.

⇒ **Women “Cannot Have Authority Over a Man.”** Women cannot hold a role of leadership in the church, such as being an elder.

- **Paul tells us to remember two things about what happened with Adam and Eve.**
 1. **Adam was the first one formed.** God gave him the first role in creation. When God created Eve, she was a helper for Adam.
 2. **Eve was deceived.** Adam followed Eve into eating the forbidden fruit, but Eve was the one deceived. God told her that because of her sin, her husband would rule over her.
- **A Woman’s Special Role.** Though these Scriptures emphasize what women cannot do, Paul follows it by talking about the greatest good they can do. A woman can please God and be saved in her role she plays in the lives of her children. Her greatest teaching will be in the lives of her children. She is to teach them so that they will have faith, love, and holiness, with self-control. First, she shows them this by her own life. Then she teaches God’s Word to them so that they will understand why those things are important. Lastly she trains them to follow those truths.
- We should all be thankful for mothers that teach us God’s Word.

Simplified Explanation of the Text

Prayer

2:1 First of all, I want to encourage prayer to be made for everyone, including asking God for what we need, asking Him in behalf of others, and offering thanks.

2 Pray for kings and for all that are in authority, asking that we may live quiet and peaceful lives in all reverence and dignity.

3 Prayers like these are acceptable and excellent in the sight of God, our Savior.

4 For God wants all people to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth.

5 There is only one Mediator that stands between God and man, the man Christ Jesus.

6 He gave His life as the ransom payment to free everyone, who would be testified to in His own time.

7 I was appointed as a preacher and apostle for this work of testifying about Christ in faith and truth. I’m telling the truth about my appointment, I’m not lying.

Men

8 I want the men in all places to pray, lifting up hands that are pure and holy, but separated from anger and arguing.

Women

9 And with the same spirit of wanting to do what is right, women should use good sense along with a sense of shame to arrange their clothing in a proper way. Not being content to braid the hair and put on gold, pearls and costly garments, but with the kind of clothing that fits a woman who has promised to be godly through the good things she does.

11 Women are to learn in silence in complete subjection to those who are in authority.

12 Even more, a woman should not be permitted to teach or to exercise authority over a man, but to remain in silence.

13-14 Remember that Adam was formed first, then after that, Eve. And Adam was not deceived by the serpent, but the woman being deceived entered into transgression.

15 But in spite of that, woman can still be saved through child-bearing if they continue in faith, love and holiness along with good sense.