

**SERIES TITLE: CHURCH ON COURSE**

**PART THREE: PRAYER AND MEN**

**TEXT: 1 TIMOTHY 2:1-8**

**INTRODUCTION.**

Timothy was a young pastor who was mentored by the apostle Paul. After Paul left Ephesus, he put Timothy in charge of organizing the churches. False teachers were endangering the mission. These teachers were speculating about obscure and less important matters, instead of preaching new life in Christ. In this letter, Paul encourages Timothy to deal with this situation and tells him how to move forward in ministry. Although addressed to one person, this letter was intended to benefit the whole church.

**DISCUSSION.**

Are there times and situations when you find it easy to pray and others when you do not? What makes it that way?

**EXAMINATION.**

Vv.1-2 For whom is Paul asking that prayers be made? For what purpose?

According to this, is there anyone we should not pray for? Why or why not?

Vv.3-7 Since Jesus himself makes it clear that not everyone will be saved (eg Mark 13:49-50), what does it mean that "God wants all men to be saved"?

How does having Jesus as the one mediator impact prayer?

V.8 This is directed specifically to males. What are they doing that interferes with worship and prayer?

What is the significance of lifting hands?

When are our hands holy?

**APPLICATION.**

- If our prayers are often limited by the personal and probable, what should our prayers be like?

- In prayer, you connect the power of God with the need of the world. In what way is that true?
- Have you ever asked someone if you could pray for them right then? How did that go?
- Lifting hands when we pray or worship is not a requirement, so what good does it do?
- What are some ways you can connect the power of God with the needs of your world?
- FACT: What is a key truth that you understood from this passage?
- REACT: What did you feel?
- ACT: What are you going to do?