

"AFTER THE VOTE"

POLITICS, PROVIDENCE, AND PRAYER • 1 Timothy 2:1-8
Dr. Matthew Jones, Pastor, Del Rey Church

1 _____ (1 Timothy 2:1-2)

2 _____ (1 Timothy 2:3-6)

3 _____ (1 Timothy 2:7-8)

COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS

Reflective Questions for You and Your Small Group

1. As we consider the biblical doctrine of God's sovereignty, how does it impact your peace in times of political or social upheaval? How can we demonstrate a trust in God's control over all things, even in the midst of changes in life that we do not like and which we cannot control? Discuss.
2. In 2 Timothy 2 Paul urges that various kinds of prayers (supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings) be made for all people. Why do you think Paul emphasizes the different kinds of prayer? What do these different forms of prayer suggest about how we approach God in our daily lives?
3. How does the doctrine of God's sovereignty influence the way we pray for others, especially those who are not yet saved? How do we reconcile God's sovereignty and our responsibility to pray for the lost, not to mention to boldly and clearly communicate the gospel with them?
4. Paul specifically instructs believers to pray for "kings and all who are in high positions." In what ways is this especially challenging in a political climate that may feel divided or hostile? How does the biblical perspective on God's sovereignty over rulers affect our attitude toward praying for government leaders, regardless of political affiliation? As it relates to political divides, how can we as Christians and a church engage in reconciling and unifying people? Discuss.
5. According to verse 2, why should we pray for those in authority? How does living "a peaceful and quiet life" relate to the mission of the church?
6. In verses 5-6, Paul emphasizes that "there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." Why is it crucial that we understand the singularity of Christ as the mediator? How does this doctrine safeguard the gospel message? How is this doctrine offensive to our world?
7. Reflecting on the Reformed doctrine of solus Christus (Christ alone), how does the understanding that Christ is the only mediator shape our witness to others? Why is it so important to keep the gospel centered on Christ's atoning work and not distort it with other "mediators" or good works, nor water it down by minimizing the reality of sin, wrath, hell, and God's justice?
8. How has your understanding of Christ's work, evangelism, and prayer been deepened by this passage and sermon? Are there any areas in your prayer life where you can grow in terms of witnessing Christ to others and praying for all people—whether they are friends, strangers, or even political leaders with whom you disagree? How can your small group be more intentional about praying for leaders, the political climate, and the spread of the gospel in the midst of current cultural and political tensions?
9. Reflecting on the gospel and its implications in this passage, how can we live out the truth of 1 Timothy 2:1-8 in a way that reflects God's desire for salvation and peace? What are some practical ways you can apply the sermon this week?