STUDY 2

1 Timothy 2:1-7 – Pray for Peace

Q. What do you think is the purpose of prayer?

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Read verses 1-7 and as you read, circle the words you think are important. (Discuss your reasons afterwards).

1 Timothy 2:1-7 I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone-- 2 for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

3 This is good, and pleases God our Savior, 4 who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

5 For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave himself as a ransom for all men-- the testimony given in its proper time.

7 And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle-- I am telling the truth, I am not lying-- and a teacher of the true faith to the Gentiles.

Q. What does Paul urge Timothy to uphold in the church? (v1-2)

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Q. Why does he ask the church to do this? (V2)

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Q. Why is it so important for the church to live at peace with her authorities? (v3-4)

i)----------

ii) ----------

In this section of the letter Paul connects a vital implication for why the Ephesians ought to pray for their authorities. In the history of the church at this time, Christianity was being attached internally by false teachers amongst other things, who, in their zeal to uphold Jewish tradition or secular philosophies, have cause controversies and quarrelling within the church (1:3-4). Paul's concern was that it might inevitably cause angst for those who ruled over Ephesus and a disdain towards God's people. Similar situations arose in Rome for instance where all Christians were thrown out due to the unrest which had arisen in that city because of similar reasons. When the church of God is a model of peace to the world around her and she is accepted by the authorities around her, she is able to get on with the vital work of God's mission, the vital work of salvation to the world.

Q. Verse 5 begins with the word 'for' which qualifies the previous verse. How are verses 5 and 6 connected?

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Q. Why do you think this is important to Paul in view of the problems he wants Timothy to address?

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Q. What is the true faith Paul is peddling?

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Q. What do you think might be modern day topics of controversies?

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Q. How do you think we can encourage our society to be more accepting of Christianity?

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The power of the church lies in her ability to be at peace with the world around her. This is the fundamental aspect of living in submission for the sake of the gospel of Christ and is modeled by our Lord so comprehensively in his submission to his authorities, though corrupted and deceptive, so that He would pay the price of death for us. It follows that as his disciples, we too will live in submission to our authorities, so that peace is maintained and the word of salvation will free to travel to the ends of the earth.

Prayer

Spend some time now praying for our church, that we would be a model of peace to PAC and to the city of Penrith.

Pray for those who need to find the knowledge of truth found in Jesus.

Think of two people this week you can invite to church.

1. _____

2. _____

Prayer points: