

The Most Excellent Way
Discipleship/Leadership Bible Study Homework

“Worship God Through Prayer”

HEART ATTITUDE: Seek God in Faith and Holiness

Even though God is all-powerful and all-knowing, He has chosen to let us help Him change the world through our prayers. How prayer works is a mystery to us because of our limited (finite) understanding, but it is a reality. Paul urges us to pray for each other and for our leaders in government. It is difficult to pray when we have sinned or when we feel angry and resentful. And it is not pleasing to God. *“Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective ” (James 5:16).*

1 TIMOTHY 2:1-8 (NIV)

I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone—

²For kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

³This is good, and pleases God our Savior,

⁴Who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

⁵For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,

⁶Who gave Himself as a ransom for all men—the testimony given in its proper time.

⁷And 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.

⁸I want men everywhere to lift up holy hands in prayer, without anger or disputing.

The Holy Bible, New International Version. Copyright
1978 by New York International Bible Society.

• **FOCUSING**

1. What are some of today’s controversial issues that could be topics of prayer?

2. How can prayer be “worship”?

3. Whom or what do you have difficulty praying for? Why?

The Most Excellent Way

Discipleship/Leadership Bible Study Homework

- **STUDYING GOD'S WORD**

4. What did Paul urge first of all? (2:1-2)

5. What did Paul hope would be the result of the Church's prayers? (2:2)

6. What pleases God? (2:2-3)

7. What does God want? (2:4)

Paul and Peter (see II Peter 3:9) said God longs for all to be saved. This does not mean that all will be saved, because the Bible makes it clear that many reject Him (Matthew 25:31-36; John 12:44-50; Hebrews 10:26-29).

The Gospel has a universal scope; it is not limited to people of one race, one sex, or on national background. God loves the whole world and sent His Son to save sinners.

8. For whom is Jesus Christ a mediator? (2:5)

9. For whom did Jesus give Himself? Why? (2:6)

We humans beings are separated from God by sin, and only one person in the universe is our mediator and can stand between us and bring us together again — Jesus, who is both God and man. Jesus' sacrifice brought new life to mankind. Have you chosen to let Him bring you to the Father?

10. Why did Paul insist he was not lying? (2:7)

Paul says he is an apostle (see I Corinthians 15:7-11).

11. What did Paul want people everywhere to do? (2:8)

The Most Excellent Way
Discipleship/Leadership Bible Study Homework

• **UNDERSTANDING**

12. For what authorities or leaders should you pray?

13. What sort of prayers should you make on behalf of your leaders?

14. If God wants all people to be saved, why then aren't all people saved?

15. When have you ever served as a mediator between two people?

16. In what way is Jesus a mediator between you and God?

17. To what task would you say God has appointed you?

• **DOING THE WORD**

18. What leaders do you want to pray for right now?

19. Pray for The Most Excellent Way, its leaders and the people it seeks to reach with God's grace and mercy.

May God richly bless you as you study His Word!
