Praying during the Pandemic
Sunday, May 3, 2020 • Tim McCoy, Lead Pastor

A Chapter a Day

- Sunday, May 3
- Monday, May 4
- Tuesday, May 5
- Wednesday, May 6
- Thursday, May 7
- Friday, May 8
- Saturday, May 9

1 Timothy 2
1 Timothy 3
1 Timothy 4
1 Timothy 5
1 Timothy 6
2 Samuel 1
2 Samuel 2

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1 Timothy 2:1-7 (ESV)

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, \(^2\) for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. \(^3\) This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, \(^4\) who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. \(^5\) For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, \(^6\) who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. \(^7\) For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

1. Prayer should be our _______________ priority. (v. 1)

- “supplication” – “that which is asked with urgency based on presumed need;” request, plea
- “prayers” – “to speak to or make requests of God”
- “intercessions” – “to speak to someone on behalf of someone else”
- “thanksgivings” – “to express gratitude for benefits or blessings” (Greek-English Lexicon)
2. We should pray for those in _________________, especially those with civil governing authority.

2 for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. (ESV)

- Pray for their _________________________________.
- Pray for their _________________________________.
- Pray that their disposition toward followers of Christ would allow us to _________________________________.

⇒ Our default disposition toward governing authorities should be to ________________ and _____________ them.

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. 2 Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. 3 For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, 4 for he is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God’s wrath on the wrongdoer. 5 Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God’s wrath but also for the sake of conscience. 6 For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. 7 Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. (Romans 13:1-7, ESV; cf. Titus 3:1; 1 Peter 2:13-17)

Executive Orders of Georgia Governor Brian Kemp

1. Declared a Public Health State of Emergency on March 14 and it has been extended through June 12, 2020.

2. That until Wednesday, May 13, 2020, at 11:59 p.m. . . .
• “all residents and visitors of the State of Georgia shall practice Social Distancing [“stay at least six (6) feet from other people, avoid assembling in groups, avoid crowded places, and avoid large crowds”] and refrain from Gathering [“more than ten (10) persons physically present at a Single Location, if to be present, persons are required to stand or be seated within six (6) feet of any other person”].

• “all residents and visitors of the State of Georgia are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings as practicable while outside their homes or places of residence except when eating, drinking, or exercising outdoors.”

3. That until Friday, June 12, 2020, at 11:59 p.m. those “who meet the following criteria of higher risk of severe illness as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are required to Shelter in Place within their homes or places of residence:

• “person who are 65 years of age or older”
• “persons who live in a nursing home or long-term care facility,” etc.
• Those who have chronic lung disease, severe asthma, severe heart disease, are immunocompromised, severe obesity, diabetes, liver disease, kidney disease requiring dialysis.

1. One size does not fit all churches.
2. Just because it’s legal doesn’t mean it’s beneficial.
3. With strict social distancing, coming back to the property is not the same as coming back to church.
4. Programming will likely resume incrementally over time.
5. Our children may tell us when it is time.
6. The livestream will likely continue even when we gather again.
7. We will evaluate continually and communicate in a timely manner as we seek the Lord’s wisdom for a wise way forward.
3. We should pray for the _________________ of all people – including our governmental leaders.

   3 This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 4 For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. (1 Timothy 2:3-6, ESV)

4. Our praying should empower our _________________ to all people

   7 For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth. (1 Timothy 2:7, ESV)

   • “preacher” – a herald or proclaimer of the divine word
   • “apostle” – one who is sent with the message of the gospel
   • “teacher” – one who provides instruction and training

A Prayer for Salvation

Dear God,

I want to be saved and to have eternal life. I’m sorry for my sins, and I am willing to turn from them; please forgive me. By faith, I receive your Son, Jesus, and I trust in his sacrifice for my sins. I commit today to following Jesus as my Savior and learning from him as my Leader and my Lord. I pray in Jesus’ name, Amen.