

How to Pray for the World / Lost / Passion of the God's heart

I Timothy 2:1-8

1 Tim 2:1,8 is very strong language – Paul is counseling Timothy that he is expecting Timothy to be this example to others.

A few examples from scripture of those who prayed for others, the lost who were outside their own community. Will shed light on “How” to pray for the world / lost people.

Abraham prays for Sodom, Lot, and his family – Gen 18:22-33

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Moses prays for the people of Israel – Exodus 32

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Ezra prays for the assembly (mostly confession) – Ezra 9:6-15

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Daniel prays for the people (his world) – Daniel 9:4-19

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Nehemiah prays for Jerusalem - 1:4-11

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Paul prays for those in Colossae - Col. 1:9-14

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Jesus prays for his disciples – John 17: 1-26 (20)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

We learn from these examples when we pray:

- What the heart of God is – that all people should be saved - Luke 19:10 – this draws us to God – Devotion
- That personal sacrifice will be necessary in this.
- Remember God's covenants with his people, including “all who call upon the name of Jesus will be saved”
- Claim the promises that we are given by God. Forgiveness of sin and Eternal life.
- Acknowledging our own sin, and disobedience towards God. Note the “We” in these passages.

Conclusion:

- Luke 15 – 3 parables about Jesus caring for the Lost. Sheep, coin, and Prodigal son.
- Today, we do not pray enough for the Lost world. Do we even know who the lost are? (Joshua project, Wycliff, Pioneers, etc.) How much have you prayed for the lost today?
- We need to have the same passion for the lost that God has for them – that they be saved.
- We need to consider it a “SIN” when we do not pray for the unreached. This is Gods heart.
- We do not “sacrifice” like we should for the redemption of the lost world.
- Today, make plans to change the way you pray for the lost world. VOM, Pray Africa, Prayer Mate, Prayercast, etc.

Piper: "Missions is not the ultimate goal of the church. Worship is. Missions exists because worship doesn't. Worship is ultimate, not missions, because God is ultimate, not man. When this age is over, the countless millions of the redeemed fall on their faces before the throne of God, missions will be no more. It is a temporary necessity. But worship abides forever. Worship, therefore, is the fuel and goal of missions. It's the goal of missions because in missions we simply aim to bring the nations into white-hot enjoyment of God's glory. The goal of missions is the gladness of the peoples in the greatness of God ([Ps 67:3-4](#); 97:1).

But worship is also the fuel of missions. Passion for God in worship precedes the offer of God in preaching. You can't commend what you don't cherish. . . . Missions begins and ends in worship." (Let the nations be glad.)

If your worship does not incorporate Missions, then you are not worshipping God. (PT)