

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

Rick Henderson
1 Timothy 2:1-10



1. In the message, Pastor Rick showed us that 1 Timothy 2:1 calls us to pray as our first response, not a last resort, particularly in the face of tension or conflict. What might help you incorporate this practice more fully into your life if this is not yet your habit?
2. Do you struggle to pray with thanksgiving for politicians and leaders with whom you disagree? 1 Timothy 2 connects doing so with living a peaceful and quiet, godly and holy life. Think about those in authority over you. How might sincerely praying for them truly make your life more peaceful?
3. Process together what it might look like, practically speaking, to pray for and engage our government officials during this election year in such a way that they believe we, as Christians, gratefully and humbly desire what's best for them.
4. 1 Timothy 2:8 calls for "men everywhere to pray, lifting up holy hands without anger or disputing." Doing this well requires humble submission and trust in God's best rather than self-reliance on what we might think is best. Jesus modeled what it looks like to live this way. What can you apply from the way of Jesus that would help you pray in freedom from anger or disputes with others?
5. Pastor Rick explained that the problem with female modesty in the Ephesian church wasn't sexual in nature; it was financial. Women were dressing in a way that flaunted their wealth, exaggerating the economic disparity within the congregation. Think about our congregation. How can we best be a church that never causes anyone to feel out of place because of socioeconomic status?