



How to behave in church.

I. Priority of Prayer (2:1-7)

- A. Point (2:1-2)
- B. Purpose (2:3-4)
- C. Provider (2:5-7)

II. Posture of Prayer: holy humility (2:8-15)

- A. The challenge to men. (2:8)
- B. The challenge to women. (2:9-15)

Pray for the lost with a posture of holy humility.

How does this apply to me?

INTRO FOR NEXT WEEK

STAYING TRUE: QUALIFIED LEADERS

PASSAGE OVERVIEW:

In chapter 3 Paul addresses a third essential truth concerning the corporate life of believers. In chapter 1 Paul charged Timothy to stay true to the gospel. In chapter 2 he reminded him of the priority of prayer, especially prayer for the lost. The church must be a people of prayer, who approach God on behalf of the lost with true holiness and humility. Now Paul addresses church leadership.

The qualifications of elders and deacons is the focus of chapter 3. It is important to consider that a detailed discussion of qualifications precedes any discussion of their place and role in the church. The Holy Spirit prioritizes godly character over position. The qualifications of elder are also addressed in Titus 1. So as you read, look at what Paul wrote to Titus as well concerning elders.

In chapter 5, the Spirit addresses the role of elders (leading and teaching). He also addresses the way in which the congregation is to relate to these men that God has called and set aside as leaders.

As a church, we believe that the Bible is our rule for both faith and practice. It is very important then, that we understand what the Word has to say about leadership within the church as God has ordained. As would be expected, God's plans and ways are not our ways. We may find that our cultural sensitivities collide with God's Word, so it is all the more important that we understand what He has said about church leadership so that we can walk in His ways.

READING FOR NEXT WEEK

1 Timothy 3; 5:17-25

