

DISCUSSION NOTES

OCTOBER 6, 2019

Start by praying and asking for God's help as you seek to grow as authentic followers of Jesus.

LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

1. Read 1 Timothy 2:1-8 and make 5-7 quick observations on these verses. What stands out to you? What seems most important? What instruction is given? What reasonable or logical argument is made?
2. How many times do you see the word "all" in these verses? To what is this word referring here? Why do you think Paul uses this repetition? What does he want us to recognize and to feel?
3. Discuss what it means that Christ gave himself as a ransom in 1 Timothy 2:6? What is a ransom? How important is it that this was a voluntary act of Jesus?

For further study at another time, see related verses: Mark 10:45, Galatians 1:4, Galatians 2:20, Ephesians 5:2, Titus 2:14.

4. Read John 3:16, Romans 15:11, 1 Corinthians 9:22, 2 Corinthians 5:19, Acts 1:8, Romans 10:11-17. What do these verses show us about (1) the heart of God and (2) the purpose of our lives?

LIVING IT OUT

5. What does it look like, in our day, to "lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way"? What do you find most difficult about this task in an "outrage" culture where everyone seems angry about everything? How can Christians be distinctive in our society?
6. Why is it so critical to our mission that we live respectable lives filled with integrity as we seek to build relationships with friends and acquaintances who do not know Jesus?
7. Read Hebrews 4:14-16, Romans 8:32-34. What can we learn from these verses about Christ's ongoing work as a mediator connecting us to our Heavenly Father? How does it encourage you to know that Christ sympathizes with you and intercedes for you even now?
8. Who are your first five friends for whom you are praying in hopes that they would put their faith in Jesus? If you do not have a list you pray for, would you consider creating one and beginning to pray regularly for them?

9. Invest the last 15 minutes praying together as a group. Use the passage as a model for your prayers: pray for our leaders, pray for the church to live godly and respectable lives, pray for the gospel to flourish, pray specifically for your lost friends to trust Christ for their salvation.