

# THE PRAYERS OF PAUL

[Pastor Joel Hayes](#) / [Fellowship Bible Church](#)

## HOW DO WE PRAY?

We pray “unto the Father in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ” (Eph. 5:20).

What takes precedence over everything? Praise and thanksgiving to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ (Rom 15:11).

Paul said, “Pray without ceasing” (1 Thess. 5:17). Be in a mindset of prayer, being in a constant readiness to pray, always eager to speak to God about everything in your life.



## ROMANS

### Romans 1:8-10

**1:8** First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world.

**1:9** For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers;

**1:10** Making request, if by any means now at length I might have a prosperous journey by the will of God to come unto you.

### Romans 8:26

**8:26** Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

### Romans 10:1

**10:1** Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.

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“...without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers” (Rom. 1:9)

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### Romans 12:12

**12:12** Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;

### Romans 15:30-33

**15:30** Now I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me in your prayers to God for me;

**15:31** That I may be delivered from them that do not believe in Judaea; and that my service which I have for Jerusalem may be accepted of the saints;

**15:32** That I may come unto you with joy by the will of God, and may

with you be refreshed.

**15:33** Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen.

## 1 CORINTHIANS

### 1 Corinthians 1:4-9

**1:4** I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ;

**1:5** That in every thing ye are enriched by him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge;

**1:6** Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you:

**1:7** So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ:

**1:8** Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**1:9** God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

### 1 Corinthians 7:5

**7:5** Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency.

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*"I thank my God always on your behalf..." (1 Cor. 1:4)*

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### 1 Corinthians 11:4-5

**11:4** Every man praying or prophesying, having his head covered, dishonoureth his head.

**11:5** But every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered dishonoureth her head: for that is even all one as if she were shaven.

### 1 Corinthians 11:13

**11:13** Judge in yourselves: is it comely that a woman pray unto God uncovered?

### 1 Corinthians 14:13-15

**14:13** Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret.

**14:14** For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful.

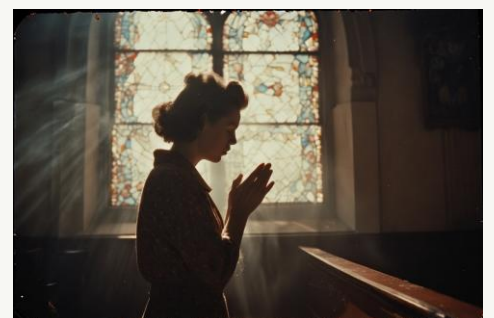
**14:15** What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.

### 1 Corinthians 16:23

**16:23** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

## TELL HIM EVERYTHING

After we praise Him what do we do? I'd suggest that you simply tell Him everything. Tell Him everything that you are thinking and feeling. Tell Him you love Him. Tell Him how grateful you feel about everything He's given you in Christ. Tell Him the things you are excited about and the things that worry you. Tell Him about the things you've learned in His Word and talk through how those principles may be applied to your walk. Tell Him the things you want to see in your own spiritual life and how you're dependent upon Him to achieve those goals. Tell Him about all the circumstances in your life. Tell Him about the things you want to see accomplished in those circumstances and your desire that His Son will always be glorified in you. Tell Him everything, every detail, of every aspect of your life.



## 2 CORINTHIANS

### 2 Corinthians 1:3-7

**1:3** *Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort;*

**1:4** *Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.*

**1:5** *For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ.*

**1:6** *And whether we be afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation.*

**1:7** *And our hope of you is stedfast, knowing, that as ye are partakers of the sufferings, so shall ye be also of the consolation.*

### 2 Corinthians 1:11

**1:11** *Ye also helping together by prayer for us, that for the gift bestowed upon us by the means of many persons thanks may be given by many on our behalf.*

### EVERYWHERE

When Paul wrote that men should “*pray every where*” in 1 Tim. 2:8, what did he mean by that?

I’d suggest that Paul means that our prayer life is not to be confined to one location and always in a special prayer posture. Paul wants men praying wherever they are.

There is no location that is wrong for prayer. In the car. At work. In a free moment.

### 2 Corinthians 2:14-15

**2:14** *Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place.*

**2:15** *For we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish:*

**2:16** *To the one we are the savour of death unto death; and to the other the savour of life unto life. And who is sufficient for these things?*

### 2 Corinthians 5:20

**5:20** *Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.*

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*“Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ...” (2 Cor. 2:14)*

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### 2 Corinthians 9:12-15

**9:12** *For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God;*

**9:13** *Whiles by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal distribution unto them, and unto all men;*

**9:14** *And by their prayer for you, which long after you for the exceeding grace of God in you.*

**9:15** *Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.*



## 2 Corinthians 12:7-9

**12:7** *And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure.*

**12:8** *For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me.*

**12:9** *And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.*

## 2 Corinthians 13:7-9

**13:7** *Now I pray to God that ye do no evil; not that we should appear approved, but that ye should do that which is honest, though we be as reprobates.*

**13:8** *For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth.*

**13:9** *For we are glad, when we are weak, and ye are strong: and this also we wish, even your perfection.*

## GALATIANS

### Galatians 6:18

**6:18** *Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.*

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*“My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness” (2 Cor. 12:9)*

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## EPHESIANS

### Ephesians 1:3-6

**1:3** *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:*

**1:4** *According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:*

**1:5** *Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,*

**1:6** *To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.*

### Ephesians 1:15-23

**1:15** *Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints,*

**1:16** *Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;*

**1:17** *That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and*

## HOLY HANDS

What did Paul mean when he said to “*lift up holy hands*” (1 Tim. 2:8)? Is this expression literal or symbolic? Yes.

I’d suggest that this phrase is mostly symbolic, although there’s nothing wrong with a literal lifting up of one’s hands in prayer. On the whole, Paul seems to have in mind our *disposition*, our attitudes of humility when we pray, because he says, “*lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.*”

When one lifts up their holy hands symbolically in prayer, they are, in a sense, offering themselves, their very hands in service to God, as a potential answer to the prayer, such as when I say I want a certain man saved, I’m lifting up my holy hands symbolically so that God may work in me to accomplish those things I want to see happen in that man.





revelation in the knowledge of him:

**1:18** *The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,*

**1:19** *And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,*

**1:20** *Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,*

**1:21** *Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:*

**1:22** *And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,*

**1:23** *Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.*

## WITHOUT WRATH AND DOUBTING

Paul says in 1 Tim. 2:8 to pray “without wrath and doubting.”

If something unfortunate happens in your life, are you going to scream at God in anger? Are you going to blame God for the problems in your life? Are you going to doubt His Word about His love for you?

We must pray without anger at God or anyone else in our lives. We must pray in a spirit of charity, *without wrath*, and *without doubting*.

Doubting what? Every promise God has given us in His Word. Everything God said He accomplished for us by the cross, everything He said He accomplished in us the moment we believe, and everything He will accomplish through us when we walk in His Spirit.

### Ephesians 3:14-21

**3:14** *For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,*

**3:15** *Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,*

**3:16** *That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;*

**3:17** *That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,*

**3:18** *May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;*

**3:19** *And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.*

**3:20** *Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,*

**3:21** *Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.*

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*“That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man...” (Eph. 3:16)*

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### Ephesians 5:20

*Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;*

### Ephesians 6:18-20

**6:18** *Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;*

**6:19** *And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel,*

**6:20** *For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.*



## PHILIPPIANS

### Philippians 1:3-6

**1:3** *I thank my God upon every remembrance of you,*

**1:4** *Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy,*

**1:5** *For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now;*

**1:6** *Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:*

### Philippians 1:9-11

**1:9** *And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment;*

**1:10** *That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ;*

**1:11** *Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.*

### Philippians 4:6-7

**4:6** *Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.*

**4:7** *And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

### Philippians 4:23

**4:23** *The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.*

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*“And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment...” (Phil. 1:9)*

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## COLOSSIANS

### Colossians 1:3-4

**1:3** *We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,*

**1:4** *Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints,*

### Colossians 1:9-14

**1:9** *For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;*

**1:10** *That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;*

**1:11** *Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;*

**1:12** *Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be*

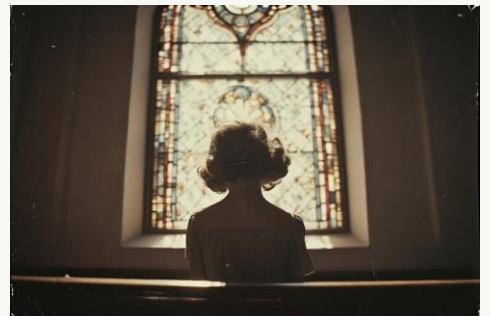
## GRACE IN YOUR PRAYER LIFE

Consider 1 Tim. 2:1-2. “*I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.*” Notice how these two verses comprise of one complete thought. Verse two cannot exist without verse one. Too often, we isolate verse two. We quote verse two about prayer for kings out of context, and we come to an incorrect conclusion without the context of verse one.

Plus, I’d suggest that it takes a lot of meditation on the first verse to understand the meaning of the second verse. Paul starts by saying, “*I exhort therefore...*”

Everything he wrote in chapter 1 has led to this point – to pray.

In all circumstances – pray.

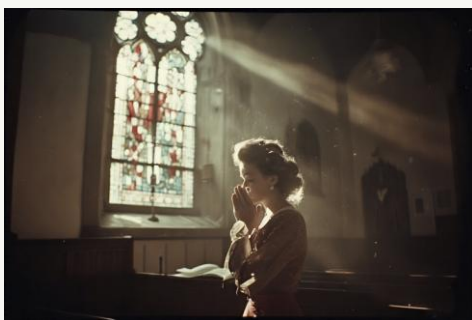


## 4 ASPECTS OF PRAYER

In 1 Tim. 2:1-2, Paul lists 4 aspects of prayer:

- i **Supplications** – making requests for yourself.
- ii **Prayers** – communing with God, sharing with God your thoughts and emotions about everything.
- iii **Intercessions** – making requests for others.
- iv And finally, Paul writes about the **giving of thanks** to God being made for *all men*. This means, in no uncertain terms, that Timothy was to be thankful to God in his prayers for all the saints as well as all the grievous wolves in his assembly at Ephesus (Acts 20:27-32).

He was to be thankful for every person with whom he had to war a good warfare - thankful for *all men*.



*partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:*

**1:13** *Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:*

**1:14** *In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:*

### **Colossians 4:2-4**

**4:2** *Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;*

**4:3** *Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds:*

**4:4** *That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.*

### **Colossians 4:12**

**4:12** *Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ, saluteth you, always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.*

## **1 THESSALONIANS**

### **1 Thessalonians 1:2-3**

**1:2** *We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers;*

**1:3** *Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father;*

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*“We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers” (1 Thess. 1:2)*

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### **1 Thessalonians 2:13-16**

**2:13** *For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.*

**2:14** *For ye, brethren, became followers of the churches of God which in Judaea are in Christ Jesus: for ye also have suffered like things of your own countrymen, even as they have of the Jews:*

**2:15** *Who both killed the Lord Jesus, and their own prophets, and have persecuted us; and they please not God, and are contrary to all men:*

**2:16** *Forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they might be saved, to fill up their sins alway: for the wrath is come upon them to the uttermost.*

## 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

**3:9** *For what thanks can we render to God again for you, for all the joy wherewith we joy for your sakes before our God;*

**3:10** *Night and day praying exceedingly that we might see your face, and might perfect that which is lacking in your faith?*

**3:11** *Now God himself and our Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way unto you.*

**3:12** *And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you:*

**3:13** *To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.*

## 1 Thessalonians 5:23-25

**5:23** *And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

**5:24** *Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.*

**5:25** *Brethren, pray for us.*

## 1 Thessalonians 5:28

**5:28** *The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.*

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*"I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Thess. 5:23)*

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## 2 THESSALONIANS

### 2 Thessalonians 1:3

**1:3** *We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, because that your faith groweth exceedingly, and the charity of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth;*

### 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

**1:11** *Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power:*

**1:12** *That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

### 2 Thessalonians 3:1-5

**3:1** *Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you:*

**3:2** *And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all men have not faith.*

**3:3** *But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep you*

## REFLECTING HIS GRACE IN PRAYER

Prayer is exhibiting grace when we talk to Him. This is acting with grace in our prayers to God by expressing a sincere gratitude for even the worst enemies in our lives. This is grace in our thinking and in our requests to God that rises above any difficult circumstance we may be in. This is grace in our prayers that transcends our circumstances. This is us exhibiting grace to God in prayer *regardless* of the circumstances. This is us being models of grace when we talk to God about everyone we know, including those we don't know, like kings and those in authority, regardless of how bad the circumstances may be. This is us reflecting back to God in our prayers the beauty of His own nature, His own goodness, and His own attitude of love and grace toward all men, including the kings we don't know, and the worst of men.



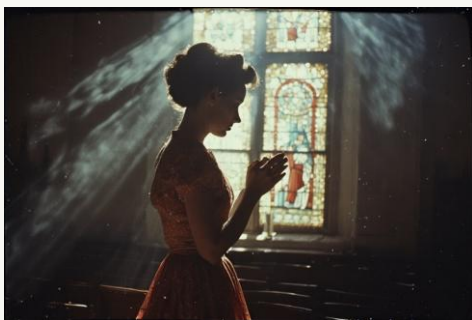


## IN THE SPIRIT?

Eph. 6:18 says, “*Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit...*”

He means you are in this spiritual habit of talking to God in prayer in your mind all the time.

Plus, you’re careful to make sure that all of your words and all of your supplications, or your requests are done *in the Spirit*. Every thought, every word you say to God, is in perfect agreement with the sound doctrines of grace. Plus, the tone of your prayers embodies the fruit of the Spirit. Your thoughts and feelings reflect back to God all of His attributes. You’re doing prayers of grace, prayers of joy, prayers of love, of peace, of goodness, etc.



from evil.

**3:4** *And we have confidence in the Lord touching you, that ye both do and will do the things which we command you.*

**3:5** *And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ.*

### **2 Thessalonians 3:16**

**3:16** *Now the Lord of peace himself give you peace always by all means. The Lord be with you all.*

## **1 TIMOTHY**

### **1 Timothy 1:12**

**1:12** *And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;*

### **1 Timothy 2:1**

**2:1** *I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;*

**2:2** *For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.*

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*“And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ.” (2 Thess. 3:5)*

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### **1 Timothy 2:8**

**2:8** *I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.*

### **1 Timothy 4:4-5**

**4:4** *For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving:*

**4:5** *For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.*

### **1 Timothy 5:5**

**5:5** *Now she that is a widow indeed, and desolate, trusteth in God, and continueth in supplications and prayers night and day.*

## **2 TIMOTHY**

### **2 Timothy 1:3-4**

**1:3** *I thank God, whom I serve from my forefathers with pure conscience, that without ceasing I have remembrance of thee in my prayers night and day;*

**1:4** *Greatly desiring to see thee, being mindful of thy tears, that I may be filled with joy;*

### **2 Timothy 1:16-18**

**1:16** *The Lord give mercy unto the house of Onesiphorus; for he oft refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my*

chain:

**1:17** *But, when he was in Rome, he sought me out very diligently, and found me.*

**1:18** *The Lord grant unto him that he may find mercy of the Lord in that day: and in how many things he ministered unto me at Ephesus, thou knowest very well.*

## **2 Timothy 4:16**

**4:16** *At my first answer no man stood with me, but all men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge.*

## **2 Timothy 4:22**

**4:22** *The Lord Jesus Christ be with thy spirit. Grace be with you. Amen.*

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*"I trust that through your prayers I shall be given unto you." (Phm 22)*

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## **TITUS**

### **Titus 3:15**

**3:15** *All that are with me salute thee. Greet them that love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.*

## **PHILEMON**

### **Philemon 4-6**

**1:4** *I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers,*

**1:5** *Hearing of thy love and faith, which thou hast toward the Lord Jesus, and toward all saints;*

**1:6** *That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.*

### **Philemon 22**

**1:22** *But withal prepare me also a lodging: for I trust that through your prayers I shall be given unto you.*

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## **A CHANGE IN US**

The end result of us exhibiting grace in our prayer life isn't that God would change the circumstances with all men so that we may live a peaceable life with all men but that through these prayers, regardless of the circumstances, we will be empowered, that God would work in us, to live in peace with all of them and especially those in authority. This is about God working through us so that we may live in godliness and honesty in the sight of all men as well as kings and those in authority. This is about us living with grace guided by the Spirit that makes it more possible for us to be at peace with all men and those in positions of governmental authority. These verses show God's process to keep our hearts and minds vigilant about His grace in all our ways.



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