

Pastor Toby Locke Week 4 – 10/14/18

Planning to Reach Out: PRAY for the Lost 1 Timothy 2:1-7

Introduction: When someone you care about is in trouble, you pray for them. You can't help it.

What Should We Pray for the Lost?

 \Rightarrow That they will be <u>RESCUED</u>. Romans 10:1

⇒ That they will be <u>RECEPTIVE</u>. 2 Thessalonians 3:1

⇒ That God will answer their <u>REQUESTS</u>. *1 Timothy 2:1-7*

<u>Conclusion</u>: When all is said and done, our schemes and strategies to find lost people are not enough.

But we're not depending on them, but on God, who routinely does the impossible! SO, LET'S PRAY.



Icebreakers:

- 1. What is one event from the reaching ministry of Jesus that you would have liked to have personally witnessed?
- 2. Who is one well-known (or famous) "lost" person who you would love to see get found by Jesus? Why did you choose that person?

Sermon Summary: When you are truly burdened for lost people, it's only natural to pray for them, that they would be rescued by God and receptive to His Word. Even though we can't overcome their barriers to faith by our schemes or strategies, we refuse to become hopeless or cynical, for God can do the impossible in people's hearts!

Discussion Questions:

1. Can you remember a time when your deep love and concern for someone compelled you to pray for them?

* That They Will Be Rescued.

- 2. Is there someone you are deeply burdened for today, as Paul was for his kinsmen, the Israelites?
- 3. How do we keep our sorrow over their unbelief from paralyzing us?
- 4. How do we keep hope alive that God can do the impossible in their lives and save them?

* That They Will Be Receptive.

- 5. Have you ever seen God's word "speed ahead" and break down barriers to faith in your heart, or in the hearts of other people?
- 6. Tell the story of your "lightbulb moment"? Did God use anyone else to help facilitate it? What part did they play?
- 7. What's the best thing to do if you can sense as you're talking to someone that they are NOT receptive to you or to God's Word?

* That God Will Answer Their Requests.

- 8. Have you ever offered to pray for a lost one's need? How did they respond?
- 9. Why is it so hard for us to help lost people with "no strings attached"?

<u>Prayer Prompters</u>: (Consider splitting into small groups of 2 or 4 to pray!)

- -Name a couple of lost people outside of your family that you are burdened for. Take the time to pray these three requests for them in your group!
- -Ask God for an opportunity to offer to pray for a lost one's need this week.