




## Personal Study Guide

# Praying For Our Nation and Trusting God

*November 1, 2020*

### Introduction

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 If you were going on a five-day hike through snow-covered terrain, what would you wear? What kind of footwear would you choose? Why?

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### 1. Oriented Toward the Kingdom (1 Tim. 2:1-2; 1 Pet. 2:13-17)

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 What was Paul's exhortation in 1 Timothy 2:1-2? What is noteworthy about this?

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 What does it mean to be oriented toward the Kingdom of God as a citizen of the United States (or any other country)?

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 According to 1 Peter 2:13-17, what counsel did Peter give in regards to a Christian's posture toward governing authorities?

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 Application: If you placed one marble in a jar for every 30-minute period you spent praying for the government and did the same for every 30-minute period you spent talking about, watching, or reading about politics, how would those two jars compare? How are you challenged by this picture?

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### 2. The King of the Kingdom (1 Tim. 2:3-4)

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 According to verses 3-4, why did Paul want the believers in Ephesus to pray with a focus on gospel conversations?

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 How can citizens of the Kingdom of God know how to live in accord with the will of their Sovereign?

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 Application: If you are a citizen of the Kingdom of God, do you cherish and pour over the Scriptures? What hindrances prevent you from reading the Scriptures as you should? What habits have you developed that help you be attentive to God's Word?

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### 3. The Key to the Kingdom (1 Tim. 2:5-7)

 Would you say that Paul described a gospel that is inclusive or exclusive in verses 5-6? Why do you answer as you do?


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 What does the exclusivity of the gospel of Jesus Christ have to do with preaching the gospel?

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 Application: Are you a herald of the gospel? How might you share the gospel with someone this week? Today even? What hinders you from being a witness about Jesus Christ? Why must the gospel be primary in our conversation with others over all things including political discourse?

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### Conclusion

 What effect does politics have upon your soul? Do you spend as much time praying about those matters as you do watching the news or fretting about them?

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 What are some practical steps you can take to be a person of prayer in matters of government and politics? Which citizenship is more important to you, your earthly or eternal citizenship?

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 How often do you have gospel conversations others? What contributes to this reality? What needs to change?

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### Daily Readings

- Monday - 1 Timothy 2:1-7
- Tuesday - 1 Peter 2:13-14, 17
- Wednesday - Romans 13:1-7
- Thursday - Proverbs 21:1
- Friday - Matthew 22:17-22
- Saturday - Psalm 33:10-12