



MOUNTAIN STREAM NEWS

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INTERCEDE INSTEAD

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR



*1 Timothy 2:1
First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people*

Christians are often engaged in intercession – that is, we are passionately praying for God to work in the lives of others. Generally, we pray

for people we love, and people who are experiencing some profound tragedy. That is commendable, but our text today reminds us that God wants us to broaden our intercession.

Through the Apostle Paul, God urges the young preacher Timothy (and by extension us) to pray for all people. From the text, it is clear that God intends such prayers to be a matter of primary im-

portance. Notice the phrase “first of all.” Among all the important things that Christians are to be doing, one of their primary responsibilities is prayer and intercession. It is interesting that God singles out civil and political leaders as people for whom Christians should intercede (verse 2). Our prayers for our political and civil leaders will impact the quality of our society’s life. How consistently are you interceding for our leaders? Especially in times of crisis and difficulties? If you are like me, it is easy to criticize and ridicule. But I have to ask God to help me remember to intercede instead.

God is not only interested in good societal order. He is more interested in the salvation of people. Yes, even political leaders! God longs for people to escape the clutches of sin, and experience real freedom in Him (verses 3-4). Christians’ main responsibility to the world is to be redemptive agents. God has commissioned us to proclaim the gospel to all people, because that is their most important need.

Intercession is an integral part of gospel proclamation as it invokes the power of Heaven to act on the hearts of men (2 Thessalonians 3:1). While we are focused on helping people come to Christ, we discover that we also indirectly improve our society because Christians (should) make better citizens.

Are you concerned about the state of our society? Are you concerned about the quality of our political and civil leadership? Do you criticize and ridicule our leaders? Maybe we should do less complaining, ridiculing, shaming, and protest marching. Maybe we should do more intercession instead. Are you concerned about the eternal destiny of people? Are you bothered by rampant sin? Instead of just decrying people’s depravity, maybe we should intercede for them.

May God help us to intercede more.

God bless you,

Pastor James

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHAT'S HAPPENING

CORPORATE PRAYER
TUE @ 7 PM

JUN 7

Join us via Zoom video
Please contact Pastor James for log on information at rcantio@gmail.com

YOUTH GROUP
FRI @ 6:45 PM

JUN 10

In-person at church.
For teens ages 13 and over

EVENING SERVICE
1st & 3rd
SUN @ 6 PM

Canceled on JUN 19
due to our
Father's Day Picnic

Join us in-person at church

KIDZONE & NURSERY
SUN @ 11 AM

JUN 12

These ministries are available every Sunday during the morning service
Kidzone for ages 6-12 yrs. old.

GROWTH GROUPS
THU & FRI @ 7 PM

BEGINS JUN 9 & 10

In-person at church.
Plan to attend one convenient to you.
sign-up on our website or the Info. Ctr.

WORSHIP SERVICE
SUN @ 11 AM

JUN 12

In-person service & livestream
Livestreaming is only on Facebook and our church's website.

- **Men's Breakfast this Saturday at 9 am** at church. Invite a friend, and bring something to share for breakfast.
- There will be baptism this Sunday, June 12th.
- Please join us on the back lawn for our **Father's Day Picnic** immediately following the service on June 19th. The church will provide the burgers and hotdogs. You may bring sides, desserts, and drinks.
- **Growth Groups begins this Thursday and Friday @ 7 pm** at church. Sign up at the Information Center or online to attend one convenient to you.
- **VBS is coming soon!** Members, would you prayerfully consider serving in this exciting ministry to children during the week of **July 18 -22, 2022 from 9:30am - 12:30pm** each day? The volunteer sign-up sheet is located at the Information Center.
- Mattie Foulks is to be received into membership. If you have any comments, please contact Pastor James.
- Bible Reading plans for 2022 are now available at the Information Center. Also, read Pastor Jimmie's daily blog on the readings via the link on our website.

QUICK TIPS ON WAYS TO GIVE YOUR OFFERING

Traditional during the Sunday morning service, with a check by mail or through our secured website. Please remember to hit "SAVE" after you give if you did not set up an account so the church can have a record of who gave for tax purposes. Thank you!