

YOU

Bible Study

Sermon Series: How to Share Christ

To be used with: Start with Prayer

**Sermon Title Possibilities: Represent Christ By
Caring**

Scripture: 1 Timothy 2:1-8

Connection with Unit Theme: To complement the small group study “How to Share Christ,” this sermon focusing on caring for the body of Christ by praying. Praying brings tranquility and calmness. Praying carries God’s will to fruition, and it helps to unify the church. Therefore, the saints of God should not only start with prayer but end with it.

Introduction: Someone said, “I did this to show you that I care.” People have delivered flowers and candies for this very reason. According to John 3:16, God gave His only begotten Son to show that He cared. So, what do saints do to show that we care? Paul sheds some light on how to answer that question.

1. We Care about the Concord of God’s People (v. 1-3)

Paul gives Timothy, a young pastor, instructions for the church in Ephesus. He wants to see the church prosper and fulfill God’s purpose for it. In order for this to occur, Paul begins to list what needs to happen within the body. He calls for the saints to care for others. How? The Apostle gives a group of synonyms for praying and urges that this be done for all people. Paul provides an example of a neglected segment of people. He focuses on praying for rulers, which brings calmness, peace, and concord to the body of Christ. God is pleased when His church is functioning effectively.

As saints, we show that we care for our brothers and sisters' peace and harmony in the body of Christ by standing in the gap for them and asking God to work in the hearts of authority figures.

2. We Care about the Completion of God’s Will (v. 4-6)

The Apostle Paul tells this young pastor that God wants all types of men to be saved. Peter expresses the same message in 2 Peter 3:9. God wants them to come to know the truth because the truth will set them free. As followers of Christ, God’s desire becomes our desire. So, we tell sinners the message: there is only one way for men, women, boys, and girls to be reconciled to God, Christ Jesus, who gave His life as a ransom for all. We also pray to God that a door of opportunity will be opened and that we boldly share the gospel.

3. We Care about the Connection of God’s People (v. 7-8)

In chapter one, Paul addresses a group of individuals, of which he names two, who have rejected the faith. He then provides his calling and credentials, showing that he was appointed a preacher and an apostle. Paul magnifies his ministry to the Gentiles and his message of faith and truth. With his resume in mind, Paul gives more instructions. He tells the saints who are men in every meeting place to lift holy hands, without wrath and doubting. It is the wrath and questioning that the church should be concerned about. Praying together helps to connect His people.

Conclusion: Christians have lamented, “Much prayer, much power; little prayer, little power; no prayer, no power.” Could the church have little to no power because we did not care enough to pray? Let’s us bow down on our knees and make requests, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks for all.

Author Bio: Brian M. Carmichael Sr. is married to Stacey of twenty-seven years. They have four grown children (three boys and one girl) and two grandchildren. He is the pastor of Holy Temple Baptist in Memphis, TN. He is an adjunct professor at Baptist Health and Sciences University, Union University (Jackson, TN), and Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary. He received his BSOL from Union University (Jackson, TN) and his MDIV and Ph.D. from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary