

the GOSPEL CHANGES EVERYTHING

January 18, 2015 – Discussion Questions

1 Timothy 2:1-7 – The Gospel and Prayer, Pt 1

Pastor Steve Lambert

1. Do you ever "examine yourself to see whether you are in the faith"? (2 Cor. 13:5)
How do you examine yourself in this way?
2. In 1 Timothy 1:18-19, Paul uses the phrase "holding faith and a good conscience" as a way to make sure you pass this examination and don't shipwreck your faith. What does this phrase mean? What is the faith he is talking about? What does a good conscience have to do with it? How do we hold faith and a good conscience?
3. One of the best ways we can avoid shipwrecking our faith is to have active accountability in our lives. If you are comfortable, share with the group a way you have been struggling in your faith or your conscience. If you aren't comfortable, at least share with one person you trust afterwards.
4. Why is prayer for others the first and foremost step to holding faith and a good conscience? How does prayer help us not shipwreck our faith?
5. Does the command to pray for all people overwhelm you? Practically, what is being asked of us here and how can we obey it?
6. Share some methods/tricks that you use to help you pray for others more.
7. Do you struggle to believe that prayer will make a difference in the world? Does it seem impossible that God will save your neighbours, let alone dictators and radical Muslims? If so, why does that seem hard to believe?
8. 1 Timothy 2:3-4 says, "This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth." Does your heart beat with God's heart in this matter? Are you passionate about seeing others saved? How does praying for all people help with that?

Take some time to pray for all people. Pray for our leaders: Mayor John Tory, Premiere Kathleen Wynne, Prime Minister Harper. Pray for our church, our church leaders, and our missionaries. Pray for the unsaved around us. Pray for situations around the world: Christians who are being persecuted, the ones who are doing the persecuting, and the lost who need to hear the gospel.