

**Recap of 7/12/26 message by Joe Ricchuiti**  
**("PRAY!") 1 Timothy 2:1-7**

1. "Times of political and social upheaval are excellent times in which to die for Christ, but hard times in which to live for Him." (Litfin) The answer is prayer not politics. In an earlier time of political and social upheaval, the following was said "The change needed was not such as was to be expected from any mere adjustment of political machinery. There was want of moral earnestness. We seem to be expecting the change to come from mere adjustment of political machinery. But we need new moral and spiritual earnestness. The individuals that make up society need regeneration. (Walter Erdman)

2. In light of the cultural and political situation (Nero as Emperor persecuting believers) "Paul began with what he considered most important: prayer. Prayer must be a priority for the church.

3. Paul mentions six reasons we must pray:

- Because we are needy (vs. 1)
- Because it is one way we worship God (vs. 1)
- Because other people need our intercession (vs. 1)
- Because it's right to show our gratitude to God, **and** it's training for eternity (vs. 1)
- Because our public leaders need it (vs. 2)

4. "When you pray, pray for everyone you know, believers and unbelievers. Pray that God will have mercy on individuals and families who don't yet believe for trust in Him. Pray for Christians that they will grow in their faith and example. Pray for government leaders that they will lead in a way that honors God. Pray, above all that the name of Christ will be honored and esteemed by everyone." (One Year Study Bible).