

Series: God of this City: Knowing the One who Calls Us to Serve – Week One

Prayer and the City

1 Timothy 2:1-9; Matthew 9:34-38 and others

Main Idea: Throughout the Bible, God reveals special concern for cities. And his plan for reaching them relies on prayer for two groups: leaders and servers.

1. *THE PLAN* – God has a special plan to reach cities; he leads people to cities in unusual ways.

- A. Introduction: Cities in the ancient world were different but similar to cities today.
- B. God loves the city, because he sees the needs of people within it. Jonah 3:11; Luke 19:41-42
- C. God reaches cities by placing his exiles there. Jeremiah 29:4-7
- D. God reaches cities as his exiles identify with the culture. Acts 19:1-41
- E. God is doing hidden things in cities, and we have to embrace this by faith. Acts 16:9-10; 13

2. *THE PLACE TO BEGIN* – God's plan to reach cities depends on prayer for the leaders of the cities. *1 Timothy 2:1-8*

- A. The context: Timothy is living in Ephesus.
- B. The command: Pray for the leadership of the region in which you live.
- C. The reason: This ensures that ministry in the city flourishes. 2:3-4
- D. The confidence: Jesus is the ultimate spiritual authority for all peoples. 2:5-7

