

1 Timothy

CHAPTER 2:8-15

Lesson 4

This section of 1 Timothy 2 appears to be addressing the role of men and women in the church setting. At an initial glance, these verses may seem contrary to honoring the role of women. However, God, through Paul, has described the role of a woman who *professes godliness*. She is modest (verse 9), has godly works (verse 10), learns quietly (verse 11), and respects authority (verses 12-15). May it be our heart's desire to be described as such.

Read 1 Timothy 2:8-15

1. Read through this week's verses using at least two different Bible translations or paraphrases. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they are about?
2. The term of conclusion, *therefore*, is used in verse 8. Record what the conclusion is based upon.
3. The contrasting word, *but*, is used three times in this section; the contrasting word, *nevertheless*, is used one time. Choose one instance of their use and record what is being contrasted.

Read 1 Timothy 2:8

1. *I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere...* The word *everywhere*, in context, applies to *every* church. This does not exclude women from praying in the church. Verify this using 1 Corinthians 11:4,5.

2. What components of *prayer* did Paul mention in 1 Timothy 2:8?

3. It was customary, in the culture of that time, to pray with hands lifted toward heaven. The Bible mentions many physical expressions of praying. How does Psalm 24:4 give further understanding of the phrase *lifting up holy hands*?
 - a. Use Psalm 66:18 to add to your understanding.
 - 1.) Park on the word *regard* for a moment. What is its significance as it relates to sin and prayer?

4. Record the words of Psalm 134:2.
 - a. Although there are many ways to *bless the LORD in the sanctuary*, why do you think this puts a smile on His face?

5. Another component of prayer is to pray *without wrath*. This refers to praying without anger towards God or others. What part does forgiveness play in being able to pray *without wrath*?

6. The last component of *prayer*, mentioned in 1 Timothy 2:8, is we are to pray *without doubting*. Define the word *doubt*.
 - a. James also expressed this component in James 1:5,6. What did he write?

- 1.) Write a brief explanation of your understanding of what James meant.

Read 1 Timothy 2:9,10

1. 1 Timothy 2:9 does not exempt men, but is an acknowledgment that women have a greater need to be exhorted in this area. Verse 10 declares that the attributes of verse 9 are *proper for women professing godliness*. *Godliness* is expressing reverence towards God. We typically think this refers to our behavior. In what ways is the way we *adorn* ourselves a reflection upon God?

- a. Define the word *adorn*.

2. Using verse 9, make a list of the essentials that Paul highlighted.

- a. Paul is not forbidding the use of jewelry or nice clothing, but rather the excessive use of them. Notice the word *moderation* in verse 9. How does this help you understand Paul's intentions?

3. Often, the intention of women who do not adorn themselves *modestly* is to draw attention to themselves. What is wrong with that attitude?

4. Peter agreed with Paul. What did he write in 1 Peter 3:3,4?

- a. Rather than our outward *adornment*, what should people see in us?

5. Along with inward *adornment*, what did Paul call for in 1 Timothy 2:10?
 - a. Record the goal of *good works* according to Jesus in Matthew 5:16.

6. Using 1 Timothy 2:9,10, summarize Paul's description of a woman *professing godliness*.

Read 1 Timothy 2:11,12

1. Write the words of verse 11.
 - a. Remembering that these instructions are regarding behavior in the church, what do you think Paul was saying?

2. The word *silence* is better translated as quiet or peaceable. How does this aid in your understanding?

3. Define the word *submission*.
 - a. Notice this *submission* is not directed to husbands. Describe a *submissive* attitude as it relates to behavior in church.

4. 1 Timothy 2:11 again calls the woman to quiet and peace. What would be the opposite of this?

5. According to 1 Timothy 2:12, what is a woman NOT to do in church?
- This is a very controversial subject. Consider Paul's possible intent in making this statement. What are some possibilities of practical interpretation of this verse?
 - What is your interpretation of this verse?

Read 1 Timothy 2:13-15

- Paul provided his reasoning for the previous verses in these last verses of 1 Timothy 2. According to 1 Timothy 2:13,14, what was Paul's reasoning?
 - Using Genesis 3:6, record Eve's deception.
- 1 Timothy 2:14 records that Adam's *transgression* was not attributed to *deception*. Many see verses 13,14 of 2 Timothy as a statement aimed only at women. What was Adam's sin?
 - Given this example of Adam and Eve's sin, what might Paul's goal be in setting this order in the church?
- Read the contrasting statement of 2 Timothy 2:15. Being *saved in childbearing* is not conditioned on *continuing in faith, love, and holiness, with self-control*. Notice God's words to Eve regarding the consequences of her sin in Genesis 3:16. The latter part of the verse seems to support Paul's reasoning in 1 Timothy 2:12-14. The curse stated in the beginning of Genesis 3:16 may support Paul's statement in 1 Timothy 2:15. If so, what comfort can we find in the promise of verse 15?

Review 1 Timothy 2:8-15

1. In what ways were you personally challenged by these verses?
2. Summarize Paul's *desire* regarding prayer using 1 Timothy 2:8.
3. Write one thing you were challenged about as you studied 1 Timothy 2:9,10.
4. What is your understanding of the women's role in the church?

*For the LORD takes pleasure in His people;
He will beautify the humble with salvation.
- Psalm 149:4*