

**August 14, 2022**

The Lord wants you to experience real and abundant life:

**1 Tim. 2:1-4** *I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people--for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, Who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. (NIV)*

Do you want a sign that you are walking in the fullness of life? It is certainly having the same love for others that the LORD does. He is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. And so, Paul urges us to do something first, above all other things. It is to pray for all people. Now this is not some generalized prayer thrown around easily (i.e., bless all the people of the world). No this is a specific prayer because he uses these different facets of prayer. **Petition** is simply asking God for something specified and particular for someone else, with bold confidence, knowing that nothing is too difficult for God. There is no one that cannot be reached by the Spirit of God. **Prayers** simply mean conversing with the LORD. That means both speaking and listening (He is always speaking through His word). **Intercessions** refers to the requests we make on behalf of someone else. It is truly unselfish prayer. **Thanksgiving** is thanking the LORD in advance for what He is going to do. We must have an attitude of gratitude. I've seen and heard many grumbling people who call themselves Christians. When the Spirit of God comes to take up residence in your life, He tends to push out the carnal and selfish desires of our hearts and replaces them with thanksgiving and encouragement. This is the litmus paper test of our walk with Him.

**Dear LORD, help us to truly pray in every way for all people, including those that are in authority over us. You have allowed them there for a purpose. Help us to walk in You. In Jesus Name, Amen**