Evangelistic Prayer, Part 1 John MacArthur

I. Introduction.

- A. Text: 1 Timothy 2:1-8.
- B. Prayer for the lost is a part of the Christian's lives. (Numbers 11; 14:19; 1 Samuel 12:3; Jeremiah 7:13; Psalm 25:22; 1 Samuel 7:5, Daniel 9:17-19; Acts 7; Romans 9; 10:1)
- C. The church is called to pray for the lost.
 - 1. We are to pray for all men.
 - 2. God wants all men to be saved.
 - 3. There are conditions for prayer to make it acceptable: godly behavior and right motives.
- D. The church at Ephesus was not doing these things.
- E. There are certain elements that need to be considered for evangelistic praying.
- II. The nature of evangelistic praying.
 - A. Supplications. This prayer springs from a genuine sense of need.
 - B. Prayers. This is only directed at God. It carries the idea of sacredness. God is honored in it. (John 14)
 - C. Intercessions. This means to get involved with someone. (Romans 8:26; Hebrews 7:25)
 - D. Giving of thanks. This is the eternal element of prayer. (1 Thessalonians 5)
- III. The scope of evangelistic prayer: it is for all men. (Acts 17:30)
 - A. This includes leaders and rulers.
 - B. We are to be models of obedience. (1 Peter 2:17)
 - C. So many prayers could have affected the salvation of others. (Acts 7; 15)
 - D. Prayer is the wish of the heart.

Application Questions:

1. How would you respond to someone who says that prayer cannot really cause God to change his mind about something such as a person's salvation?
2. What does evangelistic prayer look like?
3. Who are some nonbelievers that you can pray for? How can you pray for them on a more regular basis?