

Discussion Questions for Families and Groups

Open It!

What ruler in today's world would be the most difficult to honor by submitting to their authority? Why?

Consider It!

The Greek verb "submit" was a military term referencing the ordering of troop divisions under the command of a leader. In general use, submission was "a voluntary ordering under another" expressed in cooperation, assuming responsibilities, or carrying another's burden.

What governing authorities do we have today (local, state, federal)? What does God require of us?

How does the phrase, "for the Lord's sake" (2:13) inform how we submit to authorities?

How does (2:15) give further clarity to the instruction of (2:12)?

How do we live as "free men" and "slaves of God" (2:16)?

How did Peter exemplify a "fear for God" and "respect for authority" (2:17)?

- Acts 4:18-20
- Acts 5:27-29
- Acts 5:41-42

Live It!

What challenge do you face in submitting to authority in the context of the coronavirus pandemic?

How might God help (Philippians 2:12-13) you submit beginning today?

Studies in First Peter

Show Respect for Authority

1 Peter 2:13 – 17

Sunday, July 19, 2020

Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority,¹⁴ or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right.¹⁵ For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people.¹⁶ Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves.¹⁷ Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.

1 Peter 2:13–17 (NIV)

Sermon Question

How does the Christ-follower Respond to Human Authority?

We Are to Submit to Every Human Authority for the Lord's Sake

Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority,¹⁴ or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right.

1 Peter 2:13-14 (NIV)

We Are to Submit to Every Human Authority According to God's Will

For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people.

1 Peter 2:15 (NIV)

We Are to Submit to Every Human Authority in the Fear of God

Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.

1 Peter 2:17 (NIV)

We Are to Submit to Every Human Authority as God's Slaves

Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves.

1 Peter 2:16 (NIV)