

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why does Peter stress that this is not our home?
2. Since this is not our home, how should our perspective of the world be different?
3. How do you think the world today views Christians in general?
4. How is it possible to submit to and honor our authorities even when we disagree with them and have opposite worldviews?
5. How can Christians be free and still submit to others?
6. How would you explain to someone why Peter doesn't just tell the slaves to rebel and leave their masters?
7. How does the fact that Christ suffered so unjustly as an innocent man help us when we suffer for Christ?

Answers to fill in the blanks:
1. NOTICED A. PLAY, BATTLE B. WAGE WAR C. IF, WHEN D. CHANGES HEARTS
2. CAESAR A. RANK UNDER B. EVIL, GOOD C. MODEL CITIZENS D. FREE
3. UNJUST A. ROMAN B. 25,40 C. HEART
4. FOLLOW A. UNJUSTLY B. ULTIMATE AUTHORITY

SERMON NOTES

UNDER WHOSE AUTHORITY?

FIRST PETER 2:11-25

MAIN IDEA: AS CHRISTIANS WE ARE CALLED TO HONOR EVERYONE INCLUDING OUR HUMAN AUTHORITIES, WILLINGLY SUBMITTING TO THEM FOR THE SAKE OF THE GOSPEL.

Question: As sojourners for Christ, how do we honor others, including our authorities, without compromising our faith?

1. STAND UP AND BE _____ 2:11-12

1 Peter 2:11–12 (CSB)

¹¹ Dear friends, I urge you as strangers and exiles to abstain from sinful desires that wage war against the soul. ¹² Conduct yourselves honorably among the Gentiles, so that when they slander you as evildoers, they will observe your good works and will glorify God on the day he visits.

- A. For the unbeliever, the world is a _____ ground, for the believer the world is a _____ ground.
- B. _____ is the image of an army of lustful terrorists waging an internal search and destroy mission to conquer the soul of the believer.
- C. It is not _____ but _____ they speak against Christians and consider Christians evil.
- D. Consistently doing good in Christ's name _____.

SERMON NOTES CONTINUED

2. RENDER TO _____

2:13-17

1 Peter 2:13–17 (CSB)

¹³ Submit to every human authority because of the Lord, whether to the emperor as the supreme authority ¹⁴ or to governors as those sent out by him to punish those who do what is evil and to praise those who do what is good. ¹⁵ For it is God's will that you silence the ignorance of foolish people by doing good. ¹⁶ Submit as free people, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but as God's slaves. ¹⁷ Honor everyone. Love the brothers and sisters. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

A. Submit (hupotasso) was a military term meaning to

_____.

B. God created all authorities such as government, work, and family to restrain _____ and encourage _____. (Romans 13:1)

C. It is God's will that as Christians we are _____
_____ unless asked to disobey God and His Word.
(Daniel 6, Acts 5:29)

D. Christ has set us _____, but we are to choose to live as God's slaves.

E. How do we as Christians submit to and honor our authorities?

- 1) Pay our taxes (Matthew 22:21)
- 2) Pray for our authorities (1 Timothy 2:1-2)
- 3) Live in such a way to bring honor to God and our authorities, even if we didn't vote for them, or we disagree with their policies.
- 4) Obey the laws, unless asked to disobey God's laws.
- 5) Honor and obey your employers, your parents, the police, your landlord, etc... unless asked to disobey God's laws. (Ephesians 6:1-2, Colossians 3:20)

SERMON NOTES CONTINUED

3. SUBMIT EVEN WHEN _____

2:18-20

1 Peter 2:18–20 (CSB)

¹⁸ Household slaves, submit to your masters with all reverence not only to the good and gentle ones but also to the cruel. ¹⁹ For it brings favor if, because of a consciousness of God, someone endures grief from suffering unjustly. ²⁰ For what credit is there if when you do wrong and are beaten, you endure it? But when you do what is good and suffer, if you endure it, this brings favor with God.

A. Slavery in the _____ world was based more on social, economic, and political status than on race or ethnicity.

B. The percentage of slaves in Roman society were between _____ and _____ percent of the total population.

C. The Bible doesn't condone slavery, but teaches that the real, lasting change needed is in the _____ of mankind.

4. _____ **THE EXAMPLE OF CHRIST** 2:21-25

1 Peter 2:21–25 (CSB)

²¹ For you were called to this, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. ²² He **did not commit sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth;** ²³ when he was insulted, he did not insult in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten but entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree; so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness. **By his wounds you have been healed.** ²⁵ For you **were like sheep going astray,** but you have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

A. Nobody suffered as _____ as Jesus Christ.

B. Christ, our _____, calls us to follow Him in suffering so that those who need Christ might see Him in us.