

Men's Equipping Course/First Peter Bible Study
Week Five Assignment: 2:13-25
From Pastor Chris

As Scott shared this morning, we live in two realms, the realm of the church and the world. In 2:11-12 Peter really began to focus on our lives among unbelievers in this world w/ the ever-present backdrop of suffering, being slandered, possibly physically persecuted. 2:13 then begins a major theme in the letter (submission) in specific areas where Christians live in this world among unbelievers: as citizens, as slaves/employees and as spouses of unbelievers (3:1-6).

1. Pray then Read over the passage a few times, slowly, out loud. Then list your top TEN key words from 2:13-25.
2. This passage breaks down into three sections. Identify the three sections and the main idea of each section.
3. How does vv.13-20 relate to v.12? What's at stake in our submission?
4. Why do we sometimes struggle with submission to "every human institution"?
5. From v.13, what is the key to submitting to kings and governors? Explain your answer.

Think about who is writing this and what he experienced and witnessed. One such Roman governor sent to punish and reward was Pontius Pilate, yet Pilate punished the righteous and rewarded the wicked. Peter was there. Consider how radical these words of submission to governing authorities are when throughout history governments often do the opposite of v.14.

6. How do Christians sometimes use their freedom in Christ as a covering for evil?
7. Have you ever suffered for doing what is right? What did God teach you in the experience?
8. From vv.22-23, what was Christ's example that we are to follow when suffering unjustly? Why do you think Peter highlights these specific aspects of Christ's example?
9. Do you think American Christians will face systemic persecution in your lifetime? Are you ready for that?
10. Read thru the passage one more time and write down ONE, SPECIFIC way you can apply this passage to your life this week.