



Submission!?

Week of March 10, 2019

Objective of this study: To understand more about submission to earthly leaders, what God's purpose is for it, and how to cooperate with him in that.

[Remember, the main goal of each Growth Group is to allow God's Word to change your heart so that others would see Jesus in you and be likewise changed to be like him. He wants to change the world through us.]

Welcome (5 minutes)

Submit — What are some reasons this word is difficult to like?

Worship (5 – 10 minutes)

1. Sing a song or two of praise and thanksgiving to God.
2. Spend five minutes in silence asking God to prepare your heart for how he wants to speak to you.
3. After the five minutes have someone interrupt the silence and read **Psalm 145:8-13** meditatively to the group. Pause after each phrase letting God speak to you. **Did anything "jump out at you"?**

[It's really important when doing this study that we each think about ourselves specifically and ways we need to grow, not how Christians in general need to grow. Do the hard work of letting the Holy Spirit speak to *your* heart.]

Word/Work (60-90 minutes)

1. What stood out from the sermon?
2. Read 1 Peter 2:13-17.

Sermon quote: "God wants to DO something through our submission."

As you go through this study, ***be thinking about what that something is that God wants to do.*** And, how does our submission to or cooperation with earthly authorities help to accomplish this?

Key concepts:

Respect everyone — Does this seem odd? Can we respect people who act disrespectfully? What is the difference between respecting what people do, and treating them with respect? What are some ways we can treat everyone with respect? See 1 Peter 3:8-9; 1 Peter 3:13-16.

Fear God — (as in take God seriously, honour, trust, and revere him) See 1 Peter 4:19.

Respect the king — What do these short interactions with Jesus say about honouring and submitting to earthly authorities? Matthew 17:24-27 and Matthew 22:15-21.

Love -- What does love look like? See the next passage to flesh this out:

Romans 12:9-21 — This passage is packed with wisdom that helps us apply all the instructions from today's passage. Find everything you can here. It is rich!

Sermon quote: The question is always, "What does love look like?"

Considering everything you've read, studied, and discussed so far, what DOES love look like in the context of living in a society, and under a government, that may have very different values than we do?

Prayer

1. Spend the rest of the time praying for each other. **Praise God together for how he works, and how he allows us to partner with him to accomplish things in his kingdom.**
2. Here are some things you can pray about for the church:

A. That, as a church, we would actively and purposefully engage in the mission of Jesus in Campbell River.

B. Pastor Jeff and Ruthie as they continue to recover from exhaustion.

B. Our church board and staff as they lead us to live out the mission of Jesus

C. River Kids ministry as they reach out to kids in our community.

D. **Our missionary of the week:** Ken and Debbie Dewar with Ethnos Canada. (Check out the church website for how to pray for them.)

E. **Local CR church:** Radiant Life Outreach.

Radiant Life March Drive - Men's and women's jackets, pants, and mitts.

Sermon quote: God wants to DO something through our submission.

What is that something that God wants to do? How does our submission to earthly authorities help to accomplish this?