

09/21/25

Series: Relationship Reset

Title: Relationship with the Government Part 2

Scripture: 1 Peter 2:13-17

Getting to know you Questions:

What's the funniest or weirdest "rule" you had to follow as a kid (either at home or school)?

Have you ever accidentally broken a rule? What happened?

Into the Bible Questions:

Read Matthew 1 Peter 2:13-17

1. What was something from the passage or sermon that surprised you, helped you, confused you, or bothered you?
2. What does this passage tell us about God? People? Living to please God?
3. Why do you think Peter emphasizes submission "for the Lord's sake" rather than for the government's sake?
4. What are some examples in Scripture of God working through corrupt governments to bring about His purposes?
5. How does remembering the cross help us think differently about unjust leaders or laws?
6. Peter tells believers to "silence the ignorance of foolish people by doing good" (v.15). What does that practically mean?
7. How is biblical submission different from blind obedience?
8. How do these verses challenge cultural attitudes about authority and freedom today?
9. How does fake freedom (using freedom to serve self) differ from true freedom (serving God and others)?
10. How might fearing God change the way we respond to political leaders we disagree with?
11. What examples have you seen of Christians honoring authorities even when disagreeing with them?

For Extra Study, Read Romans 13:1-7

- 1. Paul begins with, “Let every person be subject to the governing authorities” (Rom. 13:1).**
- 2. Why do you think submission to government is such a repeated theme in the New Testament (cf. 1 Peter 2:13–17)?**
- 3. How does Romans 13 connect the idea of government authority with God’s sovereignty?**
- 4. What’s the difference between submitting to authority out of fear of punishment and submitting “for conscience’ sake” (v.5)?**
- 5. How can Christians disagree with or critique government while still showing honor and respect?**
- 6. What needs to change in your life so that you can live this out?**
Jot down any insights, questions, or key observations.

Application Questions

- 1. When was the last time you responded to unfair treatment with kindness?**
- 2. How can you practice “doing good” this week in a way that points people toward Christ?**
- 3. When have you been tempted to use your freedom in Christ as a cover for selfishness?**
- 4. What would change in your life if you truly believed you are free in Christ no matter what government is over you?**
- 5. What’s one area of “fake freedom” (health, relationships, speech, etc.) you need to guard against?**
- 6. What practical steps can you take to use your freedom in Christ to honor people you strongly disagree with?**
- 7. How can you make sure you fear God above fearing people or political powers?**