

Biblical Submission to Governing Authorities / Romans 13:1-7

(Sermon Questions for Life Groups: February 17th, 2019)

Ice Breaker: *How have you or someone you've known gone out of their way in order to encourage those who serve in public office or in various governmental agencies?*

Read Romans 13:1-7 together / Pray and ask God for the Spirit's wisdom.

Questions taken from Romans 13:1-7

1. What is the scope of Paul's words when he says "Let every person"? (v. 1)
2. What does it mean to be "subject" to governing authorities? Define the word subject? Is this more than mere complying or obedience? How so?
3. What is to be learned about authority from verse 1? Does God institute bad governments or authorities for His purposes? Explain. (v. 1) Can you think of any Biblical examples?
4. When one chooses to rebel against governing authorities, what are they actually doing? (v. 2) What can be expected and the result of this rebelling?
5. According to verse 3, who is it that should have no fear of the government? Why?
6. How are those who are governing identified in verse 4? What else has been delegated to God's servants in verse 4? Are they to be seen as an extension of God's wrath?
7. What is the supreme reason that we are to be in subjection to authority according to verse 5?
8. According to verses 6-7, being subject to authority means doing several things. Describe them.
9. What is Paul's encouragement to Christians concerning those who are in authority according to 1 Timothy 2:1-4? What is the goal according to verse 4?

Application:

1. How might you need to change your attitude or ways concerning God's appointed authority?
2. How can you encourage and breath life into others concerning governing authorities?
3. Is there some way that you as a group could reach out to the mayor, your alderman, city Council, a police officer, a fireman, and show great gratitude and affirmation?