

Sermon Questions for your Small Group/LifeGroup to think on...

**Sermon: For the Lord's Sake, Submit. 1 Peter 2:13-17, Part 2**

This week's sermon talking points:

1. **Submitting to current laws doesn't preclude working toward the establishment of better and more biblical ones!**
2. **When we act upon society in such a way as to influence it in light of Biblical principle and the gospel reality then we are HELPING society function more in line with the kingdom of God**
3. **Even if we were to enforce external compliance to kingdom principles, it would not mean that we have formed a Christian nation.**
4. **We must be careful what we ask of our government.**
5. **What a Christian desires is not a Christian state, but a state which allows for the free exercise of personal and congregational faith!**
6. **To "give our society over" to whatever they want to do is to abandon them in their sin, instead we are to ever go to them with the Gospel message!**
7. **Recognizing it to be an ever uphill battle we must continue to defend biblical principles and so far as we are able, and continue to influence government policy and regulation so that it rightly reflects a biblical understanding of sin, God's sovereignty, biblical governance, and ultimately the need for personal salvation.**
8. **We have the unique opportunity here in the US to help government understand what is evil and what is right... so that they may enforce both. Christians, of all people, must be thinking and participating... for we see with the light of Christ, the veil is removed, and we see through the lens of truth.**
9. **As we submit the laws on the books, as we work to affect positive change... We must also never abdicate biblical responsibilities to entities never meant to establish, maintain, or cultivate them...**
10. **It is the role and function of the church to provide the spiritual light in the community.**
11. **Change occurs one person at a time.**
12. **We are welcome to use every avenue afforded us to affect change. But, at the end of the day, what's on the books is law and a law to us. Our surrender to God is manifested then by our submission to the authorities He's established.**

Questions:

1. What current laws/government guidelines are Christians actively trying to get changed?
2. In the US, how far are Christians supposed to push for a Christian ethos in government? Where is the balance between getting the government to have all Christian-consistent laws and having a Christian state?
3. In what ways have you seen Christians effectively influence policy? Voter outcomes? Etc.?
4. What are some issues in which Christians need to do a better job articulating and affirming biblical values in society?
5. What is the role of the government when it comes to matters of religion?
6. What specific Christian advantages has the Church historically enjoyed over the decades? Which ones are still present? Which have been removed?
7. What evidences of a Christian influence exist in our culture and community?
8. How is the church to "fill the void" of spiritual need in our community? What are the roles and functions the church is to provide?
9. Withdrawal from society has been the constant tug of the flesh for believers. How do we balance caring for our own, protecting the hearts and minds of our people, but still fulfill the Great Commission?
10. What was one of the biggest thing that stuck with you from the service this weekend?