

TAKEAWAY

How to Live Right Now

Part Five: 1 Peter 2:13-25

How to (Very slowly) Change the World



DESIRED OUTCOMES

- To see that God calls us to shape the world not by pursuing power but by pursuing service.
- To know that Jesus modelled this to us perfectly - and it 'works'.

SHARE

How do you tend to react to being told what to do? Does it matter who it is telling you?

READ

1 Peter 2:13-25

DISCUSS

What is it that tends to make people nervous about submitting to authority?

In what ways is submitting to authority a) good for us and b) good for society?

How does the example of Jesus give us the perfect model for submitting to authority?

Are there limits when it comes to submitting to human authority? If so, what are they?

Who in life might you be called to 'submit' to? Do you? What would the benefits be to you/them?

As followers of Jesus, why is it helpful to see your life as part of a 'slow revolution'? How does this encourage us?

Where, right now, can you submit your preferences and agenda in order to be good news to someone else?

TRY OUT

Discuss what practical ways we can apply what we've learned together in our every-day life.

PRAY

EXPLAIN

Note 1: The idea of submitting to another can bring strong emotional reactions, because we fear that to submit means to forfeit all our freedoms and rights and put ourselves at the risk of being used and abused. Some in your group have had bad experiences through the misuse of the word. But we must be clear that true submission is a choice made by the person doing the submitting, not the one being submitted to.

Note 2: This passage can at first glance look like it is supportive of slavery. We must remember that the slavery of the First Century was not the modern slavery we are aware of. Up to half the population of the Roman Empire were slaves, and simply declaring them 'free' overnight would not have been practical (plus the church was tiny at the time and would not have had the position to influence such a change anyway).