

Pastor Jason Huffman

1 Peter 5:5-7

9/29/2025

Message title: Godly Followers Needed

Big Idea: We need to be able to lead & follow.

If you think you can accomplish your goal by yourself, your goal is too small.

5 Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to *your* elders.

Submission is how a mission is accomplished.

Proverbs:

22:28 Do not remove the ancient landmark which your fathers have set.

12:15 The way of fools seems right to them, but the wise listen to advice.

9:9 Give *instruction* to a wise *man*, and he will be still wiser; teach a just *man*, and he will increase in learning.

15:22 Without counsel, plans go awry, but in the multitude of counselors they are established.

19:20 Listen to counsel and receive instruction, that you may be wise in your latter days.

1. Submit to experience.

“all of *you* be submissive to one another,”

A wise leader knows there is a time to speak up & lead & a time to listen up & follow.

“and be clothed with humility,”

2. Cover all with humility.

A simple definitions of humility could be, honesty about our value & the value of others.

Pride & humility are often revealed in the relationship I have w/myself or the relationships I have w/others.

“for “God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.”

When we exalt ourselves, we resist God, & God resists us...

God shows undeserved favor to those who know they don't deserve His favor.

6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,

3. Trust God's plans & timing.

7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

We are to cast the whole burden of all our anxieties, worries &, things that weigh us down on Him.

Sermon Recap

Have you ever wondered what makes a great follower? Probably not. Most of us think about how important leaders are but forget the followers. Pastor Jason unpacks the often-overlooked art of following well, drawing wisdom from 1 Peter's guidance. Whether we are leading or following, this message offers practical insights for finding your place in God's grand plan.

Discussion Questions:

Look over these questions before your group time. Write down your answers or ideas for at least a few questions if not all. You may not get to every question during your time but speak up if you want to talk about one of them in particular. Always try to start with question #1.

1. What stood out to you and/or what do you think God might be speaking about from this message?
2. We said, "A wise leader knows there is a time to speak up & lead & a time to listen up & follow." Do you lean more to leading or listening/following? Has that changed over time? Explain in a sentence or two.
3. We talked about the importance of following Christ and going with people if we are going to accomplish things that are truly significant. When are you tempted to go alone instead of following Christ and inviting others along with you? Why do you think that is? See II Corinthians 3:5 or John 15:5.
4. We defined humility as being honest about our value and the value of others. When we know our value, it can also help us value others. How can we resist pride and practically wear humility in our workplace or friendships that brings real value to our life and other people too? Read John 13:14-17
5. Despite being anointed as the next king, David submitted to God's timing and waited years to be king, refusing to take matters into his own hands. What could help you when you need to wait for God's timing? Also, how do you know when to stop waiting and act? Refer to I Samuel 30:6 & 8.
6. What worries, anxieties or concerns about your life, leadership or submission, do you need to cast upon the Lord?

5 Day Devotional

This five-day devotional will be taking a deeper dive into the sermon from this weekend. We'll explore what it means to be both godly leaders and followers, submitting to wisdom, embracing humility, and trusting God's timing in our lives.

Day 1

Scripture: 1 Peter 5:5

The theme of authority and submission is crucial in our spiritual journey. Peter encourages the younger people to submit to their elders, recognizing that through submission, missions are

accomplished. In life, we often find ourselves thinking we are capable of more than we can actually handle without guidance. This reminder by Peter serves not only as a call to respect those who have trodden the path before us but also as an encouragement to embrace humility.

When we learn to submit not just out of duty but out of the realization that others hold valuable insight, we open doors to greater opportunities for spiritual and personal growth. Godly leaders know when to step back and listen, while godly followers know when to stand tall for truth, creating an orchestrated harmony that fulfills God's purpose for the community.

- Reflect on a time when submitting to authority led to personal growth. How did it shape you?
- Consider the importance of humility in your relationships. Where can you better exercise this trait?
- Who are the elders in your life with wisdom to share? How can you seek their guidance more actively?
- Pray for a heart willing to submit and learn from others.
- Ask God to reveal areas where pride may hinder your growth.

Day 2

Scripture: Proverbs 12:15

Understanding how to balance listening and leading is a hallmark of wisdom. Proverbs 12:15 warns us of the folly in relying solely on our own understanding. As we navigate life's complexities, acknowledging that we do not have all the answers allows us to be open to counsel. This aligns us more closely with God's intentions for collaborative growth.

Leaders, especially, must practice listening with the understanding that great leadership intertwines with the ability to serve and uplift others. Submission is not a form of weakness, but rather an avenue that strengthens our capacity to lead. Recognizing our limitations can forge deeper, more meaningful connections with those around us and align our actions with divine purpose.

- How can embracing advice from others improve your decision-making?
- In what areas of your life are you possibly relying too heavily on your own understanding?
- Who can you deliberately choose to listen to today for guidance?
- Ask for discernment to recognize skilled counsel that guides your journey.
- Pray for humility to accept correction and learn from it.

Day 3

Scripture: Proverbs 19:20

The pursuit of wisdom is ongoing and demands that we stay open to instruction. Proverbs 19:20 invites us to value guidance from those with greater experience, reminding us that these interactions are pivotal for long-term wisdom and maturity. When we position ourselves as learners, God can use others to prepare us for greater responsibilities.

Embracing a posture of learning reflects humility and acknowledges our ever-present need for growth in wisdom and perspective. It is essential to cultivate environments where mentorship is cherished and both the young and old engage in mutual edification, glorifying God through shared experiences and collective wisdom.

- Identify a situation where advice preempted poor decision-making. How did that impact your journey?
- What can you do to ensure you remain a lifelong learner?
- Reflect on a mentor who has impacted your life. How can you honor or thank them?
- Thank God for the wisdom you have gained through others.
- Pray for opportunities to share this gained wisdom with those coming after you.

Day 4

Scripture: 1 Peter 5:6

Living under God's mighty hand requires faith that His plans for us unfold in perfect timing. 1 Peter 5:6 urges us to humble ourselves, trusting that He will exalt us when the time is right. In a world where immediacy is often prized, cultivating patience can be a challenge, yet it is paramount to spiritual maturity.

Trusting God's timing means relinquishing control and acknowledging His sovereignty. It involves waiting with hopeful anticipation, secure in the faithfulness of His promises. As followers, it's through this patience that we witness His work, both within us and through us in His perfect plan.

- Where in your life is God asking you to trust Him more deeply?
- How can practicing patience serve as a testament to your faith?
- Reflect on a time you recognized God's timing in hindsight. What did you learn?
- Pray for increased faith to trust God's timing in all things.
- Ask God to help you see His hands at work around you each day.

Day 5

Scripture: 1 Peter 5:7

We are called to cast our cares upon Him, assured by the truth that He cares for us. 1 Peter 5:7 is a gentle reminder of the comfort and peace that come from trusting in God's sovereignty over the worries we bear. This act of casting is not a one-time event but a daily discipline of surrendering our burdens in faith.

Through casting our cares, we practice letting go of anxiety and embracing the peace that passes understanding. By doing so, we recognize that God's love for us exceeds our trials and that His capacity to manage our problems is far beyond us. Let us live in the freedom brought by this profound trust, freeing us to live fully and serve lovingly.

- What burdens are you currently carrying that need to be released to God?
- How does recognizing God's care for you impact your daily experience?
- Reflect on a time when you witnessed God's provision in your moments of concern.
- Pray for strength to release your burdens into God's hands.
- Thank God for His constant care and provision in your life.