



**W**elcome: What is your favorite Thanksgiving side dish?

**W**orship: Listen to *Only a Holy God by CityAlight*

**W**ord: Read *Romans 13:1-7*.

1. What stood out to you the most?
2. **Observation:** Who wrote this passage and what is it describing? (*Take time to discuss the context of the Scripture as taught by Pastor Bryan using the 5 W's: Who? What? When? Where? and Why? of this passage.*)
3. **Interpretation:** How does the historical context of Paul's letter to the Jews and Gentiles in Rome relate to our place/time today? (*Use prompts below from the message to guide your discussion and others that come to remembrance.*)
  - What are the two requirements of authority that PBJ spoke about and what do they mean? Share some examples you see of each.
  - Discuss the misnomer of those being labeled 'Rebel' and 'Patriot.' Where do you see this happening most today (and around what issues)?
4. **Application:**
  - Read *Matthew 10:16*. Pastor Bryan said this is a great guiding Scripture for our discussion and thoughts about Government. What did Jesus mean by this? How can Christians faithfully respond to the illegitimate and unlawful authority around us?
  - Governing authorities aren't just people, they are documents. To the citizens of our Nation, it is the Constitution. To the Christian, it is the Bible. Discuss how this understanding/perspective can be applied to your walk.
  - How can our response to the 'legitimate' and 'lawful' authority God placed on our lives affect our fellowship with God? (*Reference Romans 13:7.*)

**W**itness: Close by praying King David's prayer from *1 Chronicles 29:11-13*. Take time to think about the 'legitimate' and 'lawful' authorities/leaders God has placed in our lives for our good and praise Him.

Ask God to give you his heart (love) and His wisdom and understanding of His Word, so that you may walk in a manner that is pleasing to Him in these relationships -- coming to a place of "decorum, respect and honor" due to those around us. May the leaders/ authorities in our lives that do *not* know Him see our character and integrity and praise our Father in Heaven.