Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: LIFE 101 – 1 Peter Part 7 – Submission in the Workplace March 12, 2017



Connect (10min)

Open in Prayer: Have one of your Group members Pray for your time together.

* SPRING CLEANING:

What is 1 Spring Project you have on your radar for your home/yard...? What is 1 thing you'd like to 'clean or throw-out' and what is 1 thing you'd like to 'add/build/plant/improve'?

Check-In (15min)

One of our Values at Main Street Church is: *We will intentionally listen to the voice of God* > *We recognize that the voice we listen to the most will determine the direction of our life.*

How have you been encouraged, challenged or changed through your time with Jesus this week? Where are you currently reading/listening to God in His Word (the Bible)? (in your reading, praying, listening, learning) How can we encourage you in your relationship with Jesus this week?

Sunday Message Feedback (40min)

* **Pastor Shawn** continues our <u>LIFE 101</u> series in 1 Peter.

- a. What was the first job you ever had? b. What is the worst job you ever had?
 c. If you had to do any other job/career besides your current (or most recent) job, which one would you choose, and why?
- Read <u>1 Peter 2:18-25</u>
 What jumps out at you from this passage of Scripture? What encourages or challenges you?
- On Sunday we heard about "<u>our strange calling</u>" as Christians when it comes to dealing with those difficult authorities in our lives like a "boss" or a "teacher."
 Can you think of any times you've had to deal with a difficult authority figure? If so, explain (without sharing names/locations).
- We all have difficult people in our lives and conflict is unavoidable at times. (sometimes we are that difficult person)
 What's your first impulse when conflict surfaces with a difficult person? (Do you run, fight, get defensive listen, panic, ignore, deflect, argue, become stubborn, problem solve, other.).

5. There are many who struggle with the thought of biblical submission to authority. So a challenging relationship with a teacher, boss, or commanding officer can lead to a lot of frustration, especially when we are called to submit to someone who doesn't seem to deserve it.

*How can the following verses help us gain perspective on why biblical submission to authority is not only mandatory but also essential for us as Christians? Read and discuss.

- a. Hebrews 10:32-36
- **b.** <u>James 1:2-4</u>
- c. <u>Romans 5:1-5</u>
- d. <u>Mark 12:13-17</u>

Can you think of any significant character building lessons you've learned in the past when having to deal with a difficult authority figure?

- 6. Submission is no small challenge when we find ourselves in an immoral or illegal situation.
 >> As we saw this weekend, biblical submission does have some limits.
 *How could the following verses help you develop a strategy for dealing with a potentially illegal or immoral situation?
 - a. Proverbs 11:14
 - **b.** Acts 5:27-29
 - **c.** <u>Titus 3:1-2</u>

What could be some negative consequences of not putting these verses into action when encountering a compromising situation?

- 7. When it comes to figuring out how submission works in real life situations, it's important to remember Jesus isn't asking us to do anything he didn't do for us first. Read through <u>Matthew 20:20-27</u>, *How does Jesus' teaching and example impact your thoughts on having to submit to authority?
- 8. If your boss, teacher, parent etc. were to read this passage, how would they say you're doing at imitating what this passage talks about?

Application & Prayer (20min)

"Remember Whose you are and Whom you serve" – Oswald Chambers. "A Church can have all of the programs in the world, but if people aren't changing, all you have is religion...a show on Sunday" – Dr. Tony Evans.

1. CONSIDER: Considering this week's sermon and study, what's most important for you to remember?

2. COMMIT: What act of *submission to authority* do you want (or need) to work on in the next few weeks to follow Jesus' example more closely?

3. PRAY: Is there a compromising situation (illegal, unethical or immoral) you're encountering you'd like prayer for? (Don't revealing names & details – Jesus knows them already. Keep the focus & prayer on what you need from Jesus)

Resources

The Bible Project – 1 Peter: <u>https://youtu.be/WhP7AZQIzCg</u> Scripture: on Submission & Work Ethic <u>https://www.openbible.info/topics/work_ethic</u> <u>https://www.openbible.info/topics/submission_to_human_authority</u>

Announcements

SET FREE Retreat

April 7-8. Main Street Church. Info & Registration: <u>www.mainstreetchurch.ca/set-free</u> ***Share your experience and encourage your Group to Go** (for the first time, or for a refresher).

FRESH START Finance Course

Wednesdays. May 10-31. Main Street Church. Info & Registration: <u>www.mainstreetchurch.ca/fresh-start</u> Leader: Exec. Pastor – John Vermeer. <u>john@mainstreetchurch.ca</u>