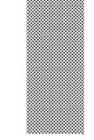


Clash of Cultures DISCUSSION GUIDE



SERMON SUMMARY:

How do we react when we're faced with opposition? Do we pick up our weapons and fight for our freedom? Do we wage war against those that despise our faith? Peter writes a letter to Christians who are dealing with an oppressive regime and in his letter, he shows us that our response should be indicative to our residency which is in heaven.

Key Passage: 1 Peter 2:11-17

Be sure to read this Scripture passage together before you proceed to the "Grow" section of our study.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION

KNOW: Spend some time finding out how everyone's week has gone.

The questions in this section provide a guide for connectivity; feel free to approach this part of your group time organically over a meal or "connection" activity or with questions appropriate to your context.

What is something that you are thankful for this week? What is something that is causing you stress or concern this week? Who in your life is in need of prayer, physical help, or emotional encouragement right now?

GROW: Grow in the Lord as you engage His Word together.

According to verse 11, if we are strangers and exiles on this earth, then where is our true home and how does that change the way we live?

1 Peter 2:13 says, "submit because of the Lord . . ." What do you understand that to mean?

Pastor Nathan said, "Freedom in Scripture is not a license to sin, but expresses itself in devotion to what is good." What does this mean to you?

GO: Talk through ways you can put what you've learned into practice.

As our nation grows more and more anti-Christian, we will see more and more laws and policies placed upon us that will pressure us to compromise our faith, maybe even deny Christ. At what point must we say, "Sorry, but I can't do that, or I won't do that?" How can we object and still show respect to persons in authority? Have you ever faced such a situation?

Verse 17 gives us a list of how we can live holy lives. Which one of these ways do you find yourself needing to grow in more?

Think about a time you felt disrespected & treated unjustly. How did you respond in the situation? If you could repeat the experience, would you respond the same way?