

# king's chapel

*Community Group Discussion Guide*

Week of February 17, 2013

**This Week's Focus:** As elect exiles, born again to a living hope in Jesus Christ we are called to a life of submission to the authorities over us, following Christ's perfect example of submission.

**This Week's Text:** 1 Peter 2:13-25

*We are called not only to obey but to obey with a spirit of obedience. We are to give honor to those who are in authority over us so that evil might not be spoken about the name of Christ. If there are critics who are looking for ways to condemn Christians, please let them condemn us for our faith and not our political viewpoints.*

**John MacArthur**

*And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, saying, "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men." Acts 5:27-29*

**Related Texts:** Matthew 22:15-22, Luke 6:32-35, Romans 13:1-7, Daniel 3:16-18, Isaiah 53, Deuteronomy 21:22-23

### **Observations and Questions for Discussion:**

- What has God spoken to you about regarding the sermon?
- Read the Romans passage listed above. Where do the authorities over us fit into God's plan?
- Read 1 Peter 2:13-15a. Is submitting to the governing authorities just an ideal Peter thought of?
- How are we expected to use our freedom in Christ?
- What is your general attitude towards people in authority? Does it line up with the Bible?
- What are we called to do when the authorities command us to do what God has forbidden or to forbid us to do what God has commanded? Reference Acts 5:27-32.
- Verse 17 gives 4 imperatives. How can we live those out practically?

- Have you encountered unjust treatment in your workplace? What was your response?
- What is the difference between suffering unjustly and suffering for sins we commit?
- Verses 19-20 describe suffering for doing good and honoring God as a gracious thing. How should that completely alter our perspective in midst trials and suffering?

### **Gospel Celebration:**

- Christ lays out for us the greatest example of submission through His perfect and obedient atoning sacrifice on the cross. How did His death change our relationship with sin?
- How does our response to authority preach the gospel?
- Where in your life do you need to trust in Jesus and die to sin?

### **Our Response:**

- Repent of any times when failed to submit to the authorities over us.
- Live like we are elect exiles, keeping focused on God's kingdom.

**Next Week's Text:** 1 Peter 3:1-7.