

Grace & Government Follow Up Questions

Week 6: Romans 13:1-7

God's Expectations for Government

Regular Follow Up Questions

- 1) What truth about God did your heart most delight in?
- 2) Where did the gospel strengthen you?
- 3) What did the Lord convict you of?
- 4) What was your major application?
- 5) What new things have you learned in trying to live out your application?
- 6) How have your prayers been affected?

Specific Follow Up Questions

- 1) When you hear the command “let everyone be subject to the governing authorities,” how does your heart respond? How did you feel about this before COVID? Do you feel differently when the governing authorities are Republicans or Democrats?
- 2) Paul says, “the authorities that exist have been established by God.” Who then do authorities have to answer to for how they lead? Secondly, how can this give us peace when authorities govern in ways that go against God’s instructions?
- 3) Sometimes it’s hard for us to believe that God would establish terrible authorities. Remember that Paul wrote these words when Nero was the emperor. Nero inherited his position from his stepfather (Emperor Claudius). Throughout history, rulers have come to their positions by birth, coup, revolution, war, and election (fair or falsified). Does the way a ruler comes into power or their competency to govern change our responsibility to submit?
- 4) God expects earthly leaders to punish the evildoer and reward the one who does well. Talk with your life group about some examples you’ve seen of this done well (try to include examples from leaders you like as well as leaders you do not like).
- 5) God expects earthly leaders to commit themselves to the service of governing full-time. Talk with your life group about examples of leaders who’ve done this well (try to include examples from leaders you like as well as leaders you do not like).
- 6) Based on what we’ve seen in Romans 13, what are the *clear* things we should look for in a candidate? Beyond this, how does Romans 14:19-22 guide our discussions about additional topics?