

- 1) We have all been faced with authority. Think to a time in your childhood when you were confronted by an angry parent, or a time you were in school and were called to the principal's office, or a time as an adult when you were pulled over by the police or arrested at a protest. How did you respond in the past? What is your default response to authority?
- 2) Read Genesis 41:14-49. How did Joseph respond when faced with Pharaoh? Read Genesis 47:7-10. How did Jacob respond when faced with Pharaoh? What about Moses? Was he ever disrespectful or dismissive or argumentative when faced with Pharaoh? What other Biblical examples can you recall when God's people faced worldly authority figures?
- 3) Read John 18:35-19:11. What was Jesus' response to the way authority figures treated Him? Read Matthew 23:1-12. How did Jesus tell us to respond to authority figures?
- 4) Read the rest of Matthew 23. What did Jesus think of the authority figures who were leading God's people? Why would He tell us to listen and obey them when He clearly saw the error of their ways? What principle does Jesus' response to authority teach us?
- 5) Read 1Peter 2:13-17. What does "for the Lord's sake" mean to you? How does acting so "silence the ignorant talk of foolish men?"¹ Consider Titus 3:1-8 in your answer.
- 6) 1Peter 2:13-17 clearly expects that government is for the better. In your estimation, is it better to have bad government or no government at all, and just let everyone do what is right in their own eyes?
- 7) Consider the four summary points of 1Peter 2:17. Are those four points easy to memorize? Are they easy to do? What will help you to consistently live them out?

¹ [The Holy Bible: New International Version](#) (1 Pe 2:15). (1984). Zondervan.