

Growth Group Questions – 19/6/2022 – Jack Kapinga

1) In your working life, what's been your experience of people's attitude towards 'the boss'? Why do you think Australians often have a general resentment towards authority?

Read 1 Peter 2:11-25.

Last week we were reminded in verse 12 to "Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us." This week we look at how Peter applies this more specifically in the area of submission to authority.

2) What do you think it means in verse 13 to "Submit yourselves ... to every human authority?" What do you think it means to do this "for the Lord's sake"? Describe an area of your life where you struggle to submit to authority.

3) In verses 13 to 20 Peter tells us to submit to the authority of the government and of masters (bosses/employers). How can our submission "silence the ignorant talk of foolish people"?

4) What do you make of verse 19, "For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God"? How might we experience "unjust suffering" and why is it so difficult to bear?

5) How might the current proposed Conversion Suppression legislation make a big change to our experience of authority and suffering here in Tasmania? How should we feel about this?

6) Under what circumstances would a Christian rightly consider disobeying human authority? If that happened, what sort of attitude should we do it with?

7) How do verses 21 to 25 describe Jesus as an example to us in this matter? How does his example help us as we seek to submit to authority, especially when it results in unjust suffering? How does our doing so glorify God?