



Disciples Who  
Make a Difference

1 PETER

## Sermon Questions

Date: *January 30, 2021* | Scripture: 1 Peter 2:11-17

1. Read 1 Peter 2:11-17. Which parts are you drawn to, and which parts are you tempted to minimize?
2. How do you respond when a decision of someone with authority over you doesn't go your way? For example, you lose a vote, you disagree with a hiring decision, your proposal is turned down, or a family member acts against your advice.
3. Being subject to authorities is the first practical outworking of what it looks like to offer spiritual sacrifices as priests, which we considered last week. How does that model inform how we read this passage?
4. Each of the four commands in v17 is challenging. How does the reasoning of verses 15-16 inform each of these commands?
5. Read through the text below, taken from the formal confessional documents of our denomination.<sup>1</sup> With this in mind, what could it look like for us, as exiles and ambassadors of another kingdom, to engage our current political landscape?

### Westminster Confession of Faith 23.4

It is the duty of people to pray for magistrates,<sup>k</sup> to honor their persons,<sup>l</sup> to pay them tribute or other dues,<sup>m</sup> to obey their lawful commands, and to be subject to their authority, for conscience' sake.<sup>n</sup> Infidelity, or difference in religion, doth not make void the magistrates' just and legal authority, nor free the people from their due obedience to them:<sup>o</sup> from which ecclesiastical persons are not exempted,<sup>p</sup> much less hath the pope any power and jurisdiction over them in their dominions, or over any of their people; and, least of all, to deprive them of their dominions, or lives, if he shall judge them to be heretics, or upon any other pretense whatsoever.<sup>q</sup>

<sup>k.</sup> 1 Tim. 2:1-3. <sup>l.</sup> 1 Pet. 2:17. <sup>m.</sup> Matt. 22:21. Rom. 13:6-7. <sup>n.</sup> Rom. 13:5. Titus 3:1. <sup>o.</sup> 1 Pet. 2:13-16. <sup>p.</sup> Rom. 13:1. Acts 25:9-11. <sup>q.</sup> 2 Thes 2:4; Rev 13:15-17.

### **WORSHIP THROUGHOUT THE WEEK**

Here are some other ways you can meet with God throughout the week:

Reflect on these Scriptures:

- Deuteronomy 7:6-8
- 1 Samuel 24
- Psalm 62
- Hosea 14
- Matthew 5:1-20
- Romans 13:1-7

Listen to our Spotify playlist [Disciples Who Make A Difference: 1 Peter](#)

Pray for our government, and for those who work in it at local, state and federal levels.

Give [a Pack 'n' Play or car seat as a CG](#)

Reach out if you need assistance:

- Call our church office at 703.821.0800
- Request aid from our Deacons' Fund at [deaconsfund@mcleanpres.org](mailto:deaconsfund@mcleanpres.org)

### ***Inward Grace in Action***

*The questions below are a little more intimate and are meant to be discussed with a trusted friend or partner.*

6. What are the areas where you need to repent for the way you have spoken about or treated people, whether believers or not, because of their political views?
7. What might it look like to engage in this sphere with freedom (v16) and goodness (v15) this week?

<sup>1</sup> For more on our confessional documents and their importance today, read [Rev. Irwin Ince's recent article](#) on WashingtonInst.org