

To End All Wars

1 Peter 2:13-25

- We SUBMIT to human government for the sake of JESUS.

1 Peter 2:13-17

- We RESPECT earthly masters even when it means UNJUST suffering—because this is commendable to GOD.

1 Peter 2:18-20

- Jesus is the EXAMPLE of a servant we follow.

1 Peter 2:21-25

FURTHER UP, FURTHER IN

1. How do you think our response to the government as Christians impacts non-Christians?
2. Read 1 Peter 2:12-17. According to this passage, what are we called to? What is the government's role? When do you personally find it challenging to obey the command of this passage? (see also Romans 13:1-8)
3. What do you think it means in verse 16 to "live people who are free" and to live "as servants/slaves of Christ"? How do you put those two things together? Can you think of any biblical examples that illustrate this? (see Philippians 1:12–26)
4. Take some time to read the part of the ESV Bible Preface that deals with translating the word slave/servant. Describe the difference between slavery in American history and slavery in the first century. Have you ever struggled with the Bible's instructions to slaves? Why or why not?
5. Have you ever experienced unjust suffering from an earthly authority? How did you respond? What does 2:19-20 tell us about this suffering?
6. Read 1 Peter 2:21-25. What aspect of Jesus' example stands out to you? Why?
7. What does it look like to follow Jesus' example in that He "continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly" (2:23)? Have you ever done this?
8. This week how can you represent Jesus to those around you?

"I have come home at last! This is my real country! I belong here. This is the land I have been looking for all my life, though I never knew it till now.... Come further up, come further in!" — C.S. Lewis, The Last Battle