



LIFE GROUP SESSION

Week Beginning: 26th June 2022



Aim of session:

What might God want to say to the group?
How should we respond to authority?

Key Scriptures

If you have access to a commentary read some background to get context.

Romans 13:1-7

Titus 3:1-2, 1 Peter 2:13, 1 Tim 2:1-4

Warm Up

What comes to mind when you hear the phrase?

“Lions led by donkeys”

How frequently do you thank God for those in authority over you?

What is your experience of corrupt/good leadership?

Thinking it through: Main discussion/activity

What are the surprising things in the passage? What is new? What don't you really understand? This could be a time to discuss and share reflections and ideas on the passage or watch a Bible project type video that helps explain things.

It seems that the British psyche has a deep mistrust of authority and we are only too keen to grumble about our leaders. But what does Paul teach us should be our default position toward authority?

1. Read Romans 13:1-2. What is Paul stressing here? How many times does he say it?
2. All levels of authority are set by God. Starting with parenthood, list as many types of authority as you can. How should we as Christians act towards those in authority? (read the three extra scriptures above)
3. In v4-6 Paul uses the word “servant” 3 times when referring to those in authority. What three roles does Paul see in those in authority? How should we treat those under our authority?
4. As “servants”, to whom are those in authority accountable? How should this affect our attitude?

Growing in discipleship: Practical application

5. How can you do a better job of submitting to those in authority over you?
6. In what ways can you be a better Christian example to those subordinate to you?
7. Romans 13:1-7 sets out our default position. What help does the Bible give us in more extreme circumstances? (Matthew 10v23, Daniel 3v16-18) Should Christians be in politics?
8. What does 1 Tim 2:1-4 and Titus 3:1-2 add to what we have already learned about leadership?
9. How can the life of Jesus be a model for us in regard to relationships with authorities?
(Luke2:51, Matt 17:24-27, Luke 20:25)



Try to leave 15-20 mins to talk about prayer needs of the group and to pray.

We want to encourage the development of prayer, to help everyone grow in confidence in praying. There are many creative ways of praying together: writing prayers, using candles as a focus, reading prayers or praying for each other in pairs.