

# Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies

## 1 Peter 2:11-17

### Lesson 6

As believers, the motive behind all that we do is the glory of God. In this lesson we will see our role in society. We are to be representatives of the Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, we are to *submit* ourselves *to every ordinance of man... whether to the king... or to governors*. At the time of the writing of this letter, there was not one Christian king. Many, like Nero, were men obsessed with the annihilation of Christians. Yet, the instruction to all believers was *submit*. As you study these verses, may you understand the correlation between your *submission* and *glorifying God*.

#### DAY ONE: Read 1 Peter 2:11-17

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they were about?
  - a. 1 Peter 2:11-17 has been divided into two paragraph divisions. List below the subject(s) covered in this section.

**Verses 11-12**

**Verses 13-17**

How would you title each section? Record your titles on the **Chapter & Paragraph Division Titles Chart** provided with your Observation Worksheet.

2. At the right-hand side of the same chart are columns labeled **Key Words** and **Symbol**. They have been provided for you to record the key words and the symbol you have chosen to represent each one. Record the key words listed below and their symbols on the chart.

From previous lessons: *God* and *love*

New to this lesson: *good*, *submit*, and *honor*

Now, using the symbols you have chosen, mark each of the key words each time they are used in 1 Peter 2:11-17. Remember, as you mark the word *God*, to mark any personal pronouns that refer to Him.

3. Note the term of conclusion, *therefore*, in verse 13. What is the conclusion made and what is it based upon?
4. Peter used the contrasting term *but* in verse 16. What is being contrasted?

## DAY TWO: Read 1 Peter 2:11,12

1. Notice the tender way Peter began his instructions concerning key issues of the Christian's spiritual life. Pay close attention to his strong appeal to believers as you write verse 11 phrase by phrase.
  - a. Peter called believers *sojourners and pilgrims*. What does this suggest to you?
  
2. 1 Peter 2:11 instructs the believer to *abstain*. List a few synonyms for the word *abstain*.
  - a. According this verse, what are we to *abstain* from?
    - 1.) Explain why *fleshly lusts war against the soul*.
  
  - b. How do the following verses provide the solution for indulgences of the flesh?  
Romans 6:1-13  
  
Galatians 5:16
  
3. Think about the influence the believer has on those in the world as you read 1 Peter 2:12. Why is the Christian's *conduct* so important?
  
4. According to 1 Peter 2:12, what is the outcome of our *good works*?
  - a. Since we are saved by grace, why is it so important to do *good works*?  
Challenge: Use Scripture to support your answer.

### DAY THREE: Read 1 Peter 2:13,14

1. 1 Peter 2:13 begins a thorough teaching on submission. To what are we to *submit*?
  - a. Verse 13 begins with the word *therefore*. What do you see to be the correlation between *submitting to every ordinance of man* and the example called for in verse 12?
  
2. According to 1 Peter 2:13, why are we to *submit ourselves to every ordinance of man*?
  - a. How does keeping in mind that you are doing this *for the Lord's sake* help you to submit?
  
3. In what way does Mathew 22:21 relate to the instruction of 1 Peter 2:13?
  
4. In what circumstances might someone find the instruction of 1 Peter 2:13 difficult to follow?
  
5. According to 1 Peter 2:13,14 who are we to *submit* to?
  - a. God has a purpose for those in authority. What is it? 1 Peter 2:14b
  
  - b. Read Romans 13:3,4 and summarize the message.

## DAY FOUR: Read 1 Peter 2:15,16

1. According to 1 Peter 2:15, what is the result of *doing good*?
  - a. Considering this verse in the context of previous verses, what *good* is Peter referring to?
  - b. Using Ephesians 6:6,7 describe the attitude we are to have as we are *doing good*.
2. *It is God's will that your good lives should silence those who make foolish accusations against you.* (1 Peter 2:15 NLT) What does Titus 2:7,8 and 3:1 say about this?
  - a. Share an example of a time you experienced this truth.
3. Notice that *submission* and *doing good* are two of God's preferred responses to *foolish accusations against you*. Knowing this, how will you personally apply this?
4. How is the believer described in 1 Peter 2:16?
  - a. Explain how the believer can be both *free* and a *bondservant*.
5. *...But your freedom is not an excuse to do evil...* (1 Peter 2:16 NLT) According to Jude 1:4, who do we deny when we use our freedom to do evil?
  - a. In what ways does a believer *deny Jesus* when she sins?
    - 1.) Considering the effect of *evil works (vice)*, review the effect of *good works* in 1 Peter 2:12. What does this say to you?
    - 2.) In what way(s) might a believer use her *freedom in Christ* to cover or excuse *evil*?

## DAY FIVE: Read 1 Peter 2:17

1. 1 Peter 2:17 records four succinct commands for believers. Print them here and give a brief explanation or meaning of each:

a.

b.

c.

d.

1.) Share a practical example of obeying one of these.

2. How would disobedience to the commands of 1 Peter 2:17 affect a believer's witness?

a. Which of these do you find most difficult?

1.) Why?

3. The word *honor* is used two times in 1 Peter 2:17. In what way is *honor* related to *submission*?

a. Describe how someone might *submit*, yet not *honor*?

4. We are to *honor people*; we are to *honor the king*. Yet, we are to *fear God*. Although we are to show respect towards both, what might be some differences in our attitudes and actions towards a *king* (government authorities) and *God*?

**DAY SIX: Review 1 Peter 2:11-17**

1. What does it mean to live a *good* life?
2. What *good works* in your life do non-Christians see?
3. What have you learned from this lesson about *submission*?
4. Why is it so difficult to *submit* to those who have authority over us?
5. Share one thing from this lesson that has challenged or encouraged you?

*Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.*

*- Ephesians 5:21 NIV*