

Application

4. Read Daniel 6:1-5. Daniel lived out the principle that Peter is talking about in 1 Peter 2:12, and King Darius's response in Daniel 6:26-27 is the response that Peter hopes for in verse 12. Think about times you have had to choose between obeying God and obeying men. Share with the group how you went about drawing that line.

5. New Testament passages on submitting to authority talk about emperors, kings and governors. These words meant something different in that time: they had absolute authority over life and death. We are familiar with a different form of government. How should these principles work out in a government where we elect our "kings and governors."

SURVIVING AS HEAVEN'S AMBASSADORS

1 Peter 2:11-17

You cannot antagonize and influence at the same time. O Lord Eternal, move and govern my tongue to speak the truth.

-John Knox

We are objects of God's love and exiles because of it.

(1 Peter 2:11)

Our conduct as exiles is the gateway for another's salvation.

(1 Peter 2:12)

Our citizenship is in Heaven, but our (sub)mission is still here on Earth. (1 Peter 2:13-16)

The Command of Submission –

The Motive of Submission –

The Extent of Submission –

The Purpose of Submission –

The Attitude of Submission –

Ambassadors are the objects of God love and servants to all because of it. (1 Peter 2:17)

Getting to Know You

1. If you could go back in time to change one thing, what would it be?

Into the Bible

2. Some of your Bibles may include 1 Peter 2:11-12 as the last verses of a section that begins with 1 Peter 2:1. Others probably have them as the beginning of a new section that goes all the way to 1 Peter 3:7. The section breaks and their titles were not put there by the authors. They are really part of a commentary on the passage. Write down some ways in which you might interpret the passage differently, depending on whether you see it as the end of a section or the beginning of a new one.
3. The paradox of being free in Christ, yet being slaves of God (1 Peter 2:16), is a common theme in the New Testament. Find and write down some other passages that deal with this paradox, then share them with your group.