

SMALL GROUP Q'S

Personal Life:

1. What is your opinion of the role and influence of Christians in civil government?
2. Do you believe there is a place for civil disobedience in the life of a Christian? If so, please offer some specific, concrete examples of where such actions may apply...

Ponderings:

3. Read Romans 13:1-7 again. Writing to Christians in the Roman empire, Paul says they are to submit to governing authorities. What are the similarities and differences between living under a monarchical government like Rome versus a democratic republic designed to be a government "of, by and for the people" such as ours?
4. In the message, it was mentioned that the Greek grammar implies that Christians are to develop a lifestyle of cooperation and obedience to civil authority as opposed to a lifestyle of rebellion. If you believe in the legitimacy of civil disobedience, what are the limitations, if any?
5. Over the past three years, American Christians have been forced to really think about civil disobedience. From George Floyd to Covid policy to Constitutional debates, we have grappled with how to respond redemptively to a variety of moral issues. How do you believe your views have been shaped by your understanding of Scripture and the character of Jesus?
6. In the message, we were encouraged to live with a mindset of redemption as opposed to a mindset of "retreating" or becoming "reactionary." Explain what you think was meant by this. What does it mean to live missionally, as you understand it?

Promptings:

7. In what specific ways are the natural currents of your life (family, friends, neighborhood, work, school, hobbies, etc.) able to become avenues for redemption and missional living? Are there relationships in your life whereby you can "heap coals" for someone who needs your help? Will you obey the prompting of the Spirit to get involved this week?