

I. Submission is Human. Really!

- A. Because it's divine.
- B. What submission is *really* about... Romans 12:1-2

II. Submission in the Present Age: The Jesus Code

- A. Starts with trust in God for what *really* matters.
- B. Submission becomes a gift we offer from a position of real power.
- C. Submission offered to show some poor soul Jesus.
- D. Submission offered *first of all* to God, Mark 12:17.

III. Application of the Jesus Code to Government, Romans 13:1-7

- A. Book context: Romans 12:1-2 (again).
- B. Historical context.
- C. Orders come from God, (13:1-5), so...
- D. Pay up and respect! (13:6-7).

But what about Resistance?...

Conclusion: Learn and practice your power!

CELL GROUP DISCUSSIONS

The following are discussion questions based off of the sermon on November 17, 2019.

1. To most Americans, submission is a negative topic because “mastery of your destiny” and self-sufficient independence is a high cultural value. How do you respond to the idea that submission, or living in an Order, is *fundamental* to what it means to be human in God's image?
2. Discuss the claim that for the Christian submission is a *gift* offered to the one “above” in the order from a position of *real power*. What is the gift of submission offered *for*, or *to do*? What is its purpose for the one in authority?
3. Think more about the power-position from which submission can be given—Peter says Jesus “entrusted himself to God” in his submission to abuse of governmental authority (1 Peter 2:23). And Paul does the same thing for his readers in Rome. Read over Paul's great reminders to the Romans about their God who stands behind them from these passages: Romans 8:37–39; 11:33–36 and 16:25–26. What in these passages enables your power of submission? How does the immediately preceding text in Romans (12:14–21) sustain Paul's exhortation to submit?
4. Of the abiding “labs of submission” (government, work, family, church), where is the greatest work being done now (i.e., challenge to submit)? What truths of your identity in Christ bring you (or should bring you) power to be in this “lab”?