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Scriptures, Questions, & Assignment

1. What did you learn from your study of Matthew 11:28-30, Philippians 2:1-18, and 1 John 3:14-18 this past week?
2. As a follower of Jesus, what is your mission? How are you doing with it?

Revelation 21:3-4 (NLT): *"... God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people ... He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever."* (**Revelation 21:3-4**, NLT)

Mark 12:29-31 (NLT): *"The most important commandment is this: 'Listen, O Israel! The LORD our God is the one and only LORD. And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.' The second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' No other commandment is greater than these."* (**Mark 12:29-31**, NLT)

John 13:33-35 (NLT): *"... I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."* (**John 13:33-35**, NLT)

Matthew 28:19-20 (NLT): *"... Go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."* (**Matthew 28:19-20**, NLT)

1 John 4:7-11, 20 (NLT): *Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love.*

... Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other. No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love is brought to full expression in us ...

If someone says, "I love God," but hates a fellow believer, that person is a liar; for if we don't love people we can see, how can we love God, whom we cannot see? (1 John 4:7-11, 20, NLT)

- 3. What needs to change in your life for you to be able to follow through on the mission Jesus has given you?**

James 4:17 (NLT): *Remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it.*
(James 4:17, NLT)

Philippians 2:5-8 (NLT): *You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.*

Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross. (Philippians 2:5-8, NLT)

Romans 12:1-2 (NLT): *... I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice – the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. (Romans 12:1-2, NLT)*

Psalms 139:23-24 (NLT): *Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.*
(Psalm 139:23-24, NLT)

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV): *Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. (Proverbs 3:5-6, NIV)*

Micah 6:8 (NLT): *... The LORD has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8, NLT)*

Assignment

Spend a bit of time this week considering [Matthew 22:15-22](#) and [Romans 13](#). Remember that the Governments Jesus and Paul lived under were much more corrupt, violent, and intolerant of Christianity than ours. This represents the bulk of what Jesus and Paul said about Governments and Politics.

- This week, read [Matthew 22:15-22](#) and [Romans 13](#) at least once each day – try reading them in several different translations.
- What do you find comforting in these passages?
- Is there anything about these passages that makes you uncomfortable? Why do you think that is?
- What guidance do these passages provide on your involvement with Politics?
- Do these passages dictate unquestioning obedience to Government? What other Biblical principles and illustrations come to mind?
- What is the most important message you see in these passages?
- How will what you have learned affect the way you live your life? Why?