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Scriptures, Questions, & Assignment

1. What did you learn from your study of Matthew 22:15-22 and Romans 13 this past week?
2. Being mindful of your mission to *Love Like Jesus*, what should be your attitude towards government? How does that work practically?

John 13:34-35 (NLT): *"... 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 13:34-35](#), 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)

Matthew 22:21 (NLT): *"... Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and give to God what belongs to God."* ([Matthew 22:21](#), NLT)

Romans 13:1 (NLT): *Everyone must submit to governing authorities. For all authority comes from God, and those in positions of authority have been placed there by God.* ([Romans 13:1](#), NLT)

Romans 13:7 (NLT): *Give to everyone what you owe them: Pay your taxes and government fees to those who collect them, and give respect and honor to those who are in authority.* ([Romans 13:7](#), NLT)

1 Peter 2:13-14 (NLT): *For the Lord's sake, submit to all human authority – whether the king as head of state, or the officials he has appointed. For the king has sent them to punish those who do wrong and to honor those who do right. (1 Peter 2:13-14, NLT)*

Acts 4:18-20 (NLT): *So they called the apostles back in and commanded them never again to speak or teach in the name of Jesus.*

But Peter and John replied, "Do you think God wants us to obey you rather than him? We cannot stop telling about everything we have seen and heard." (Acts 4:18-20, NLT)

- 3. Does government legislation advance God's cause? What can you do to really make a difference in the present political climate?**

Matthew 6:33 (NLT): *"Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need." (Matthew 6:33, 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)*

Isaiah 58:7-10 (NLT): *Share your food with the hungry, and give shelter to the homeless. Give clothes to those who need them ...*

"Then your salvation will come like the dawn, and your wounds will quickly heal. Your godliness will lead you forward, and the glory of the LORD will protect you from behind ...

"Remove the heavy yoke of oppression. Stop pointing your finger and spreading vicious rumors! Feed the hungry, and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you will be as bright as noon ..." (Isaiah 58:7-10, NLT)

Assignment

Spend a bit of time this week considering **Genesis 2:15-17, Ecclesiastes 9:3-10, Matthew 10:28-30,** and **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18.**

- This week, read **Genesis 2:15-17, Ecclesiastes 9:3-10, Matthew 10:28-30,** and **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18** through several times – 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?
- How do these passages help us understand what happens when we die?
- What do these passages tell us about the consequences of sin?
- 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?

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