

Romans 13  
Sunday August 18, 2019

Life Topic #2: \_\_\_\_\_ figures.

Romans 13:1-7 (NLT, pg. 945)

Authority and structure are \_\_\_\_\_.

Romans 13:1b (NLT) For all authority comes from God, and those in positions of authority have been placed there by God.

Submission to authority is not the same as \_\_\_\_\_ of authority.

Romans 13:5 (NLT) So you must submit to them, not only to avoid punishment, but also to keep a clear conscience.

God is the \_\_\_\_\_ authority.

Romans 13:6b (NLT) They are serving God in what they do.

Life Topic #3: \_\_\_\_\_ choices.

Romans 13:8-14 (NLT, pg. 945)

The basis of every action, decision, and attitude should be \_\_\_\_\_.

Romans 13:10 (NLT) Love does no wrong to others, so love fulfills the requirements of God's law.

Your lifestyle speaks \_\_\_\_\_ than you often realize.

Romans 13:12-13 (NLT) So remove your dark deeds like dirty clothes, and put on the shining armor of right living. Because we belong to the day, we must live decent lives for all to see.

How do I put on the shining armor of right living? (vs. 14)

1. Clothe yourself in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. Don't let yourself think about ways to \_\_\_\_\_ your evil desires.

Final Thought: \_\_\_\_\_ (NLT, pg. 526) Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.

Romans 13 Discussion Questions

What is your experience/observation of how our culture today respects authority? What do you think has caused this shift in our culture? Review Romans 13:1-7. What stands out to you the most about Paul's advice regarding authority? Read John 19:1-16. There are many layers of authority and structure described here, what are they? What parallels do you see between these different layers and levels of authority then and in our world today? Re-read Jesus' statement in verse 11. What makes this the turning point in the story? Do you think it can be a turning point in our story today? Why or why not?

"Submission to authority is not the same as fear of authority." Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not? What is the authority in

your life you have had the most fear of? What authority in your life have you truly submitted to? Read Luke 20:1-8. What were the religious leaders struggling with in regard to Jesus' authority? Why do you think Jesus did what he did? What lesson was he trying to teach them? How does this lesson apply to your faith journey? Explain.

Have your lifestyle choices ever effected other people? Was it in a positive or negative way? Were you aware of you much your choices affected others? Why or why not? Read Matthew 22:36-40. Paul alludes to this foundational teaching of Jesus in Romans 13. How does this apply to your lifestyle choices? Explain. "The basis of every action, decision, and attitude should be love." This is a simple concept, and a very complex one at the same time. Which has it been for you? Explain.

Read Romans 13:11-12. Why do think Paul gives such an urgent plea here? In Romans 13:14 we are given two things that will help us put on the shining armor of right living. (Clothe yourself in the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ and don't let yourself think about ways to indulge your evil desires) Why are these so important to do? Why are they described as "armor"? Explain. Which of the two do you need to focus on the most this next week?