

LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE:

(60-minute session—07-05-20)

Message Series: THRIVE.

This series will walk us through the New Testament book of 1Peter. In Peter's letter to the scattered Christian community, God's people are encouraged to live in hope and walk in holiness...literally THRIVE from heaven's perspective. We hope you enjoy the series as we focus in on several of the imperatives found in 1Peter.

Today's lesson is all about citizenship and our relationship to government.

What appreciations do you have for government? In what areas do you struggle with government?

In what areas do you see our country struggling right now? Should Christians engage in the protest/riots that we see going on in our country? What's the answer?

What did you learn about Marxist ideologies? Is Marxism compatible with Christianity?

In 1Peter 2, we talked about being followers of Jesus and our relationship to government. Take some time to review the point from the lesson:

1. Accept the _____ of government:

Read 1Peter 2:13

How do you initially feel when you hear these words of the apostle? What were things like for Christians living in the first century? In what way would Peter's words have been challenging to the early Christians? How are they challenging to you?

Did the apostles and NT Church leaders understand what it was like to experience injustice and corruption? How did they respond? How did they not respond?

2. Understand the _____ of government:

Read 1Peter 2:13-14

What did you learn about the word "authority" found in v13? What are the two primary functions of government? What happens to those who ignore governmental authority?

3. Welcome the _____ of living within the framework of government:

Read 1Peter 2:15-17

What are the results of living within the framework of government? How has this lesson been helpful to you?