

April 28, 2024
The Bridge Bible Fellowship
Pastor Paul S. Brown
1 Peter 3:8-12

“Stand Up & Stand Out”
“Submission in the Church”

- I. Foundation: God’s Provision of Salvation (1:1-12)
- II. Exhortation: Our Response to So Great a Salvation (1:13-5:14)
 - A. Sanctification (1:13-2:12) – The BEAUTY of Holiness
 - B. **Submission** (2:11-3:12)
 - 1. In Society (2:11-17)
 - 2. In the Workplace (2:18-25)
 - 3. In the Home (3:1-7)
 - 4. In the Church (3:8-12)

So what?

Discussion & Application:

1. Review what Peter has said about submission in 2:11-3:7. What specific steps have you taken to apply these truths? Share a story of how you have behaved this way in recent weeks and how others reacted.
2. Review the 5 qualities in verse 8. Add to them what Paul says in Romans 12:9-16. Discuss specific ways you could apply them in relationships with people in the church body. How could you help the church feel and act more like a family (brotherly love)?
3. Why is it important to practice these qualities in times of intense persecution? How would the active practice of these qualities help a church stand up and stand out?
4. What is your natural reaction when someone does something evil to you or insults you? What does Peter mean when he says we should give a blessing instead? What kind of blessing? What examples do we have of this happening in the Bible? What is the connection between living this way and inheriting a blessing?
5. Discuss practical ways you could pronounce a blessing and/or pray a blessing over those who have mistreated you (in society, in the workplace, in your home, and in your church). What impact does it have on your heart when you pray for God to bless those who are hurting you? How does it affect your thoughts, attitudes, words, and actions toward them? How does reflecting on 1 Peter 1:1-12 help you bless others who hurt you?
6. In 3:10-12, Peter quotes from Psalm 34:12-16a. Read 1 Samuel 21 for the background to Psalm 34. What kind of persecution / suffering was David experiencing? How did David practice the truths of these verses in his relationship with King Saul?
7. When we are unjustly mistreated, what are we tempted to say that might be evil? When telling others about what happened, how might we be deceptive in our speech? How can we keep ourselves from talking that way?
8. What does it mean to turn away from evil and do good? What are some good things we could do for those who are persecuting us?
9. What does it mean to seek peace and pursue it? What are some specific ways you could do this with people who have hurt you?
10. How does verse 12 help you stay motivated to live this way? What is the intended contrast Peter makes between verse 7 and verse 12 as it relates to prayer?
11. Our natural instinct is to get revenge. Read Romans 12:17-21. Why don't we need to take revenge? What should we do instead?
- 12. Memorize 1 Peter 3:8-12.** Meditate on the practical ways you will apply these truths this week.