



## **ROMANS CHAPTER 13 (FACILITATOR)**

### **Discussion Starter**

- Do you like or dislike rules? Why?
- **Opening Prayer**
  - Ask if someone wants to volunteer before leading the prayer.

### **Breaking it Down**

- All questions should be utilized as appropriate based upon group dynamics to facilitate both understanding and discussion. Don't feel tied to the questions and don't feel like you must get through every question. Follow the Spirit's lead! All questions are a matter of perspective in some way BUT there are specific questions that this is truer of, and these questions have been indicated to be perspective/opinion questions.
- Please use your own style, voice, and approach in preparing for leading your life group. Most importantly, take a few minutes to pray over the time together with you group and pray over each group member by name.

### **Tell the Story**

- **PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE ONE PERSON WHO STORIES (SUMMARIZES THE CHAPTER) BEFORE THE GROUP READS THE CHAPTER TOGETHER.**

### **Read the Story (Romans 13:1-14)**

Read out loud as a group, 3-5 verses per person. Let everyone know they can opt out if they would like.

### **Romans 13:1-2**

- It is important to note the timing of Paul's writing of Romans. He wrote this book during the reign of the Roman Empire and the Roman Empire was not a friend to Christians nor was the Empire a democracy. Why are these things important to understand?

- Paul's call and charge to the men and women of God isn't coming in ideal or pleasant circumstances for them. His call is to rise above their circumstances to be and live as ambassadors of God.
  - In what ways do you sometimes make excuses for not being the man or woman of God that He calls you to be because of your circumstances?
    - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.

### **ROMANS 13:3-7**

- While this passage isn't calling men and women of God to obey any human being over and above the Lord, it is important to pay close attention to the following passages in light of this passage. The reality of the situation is that Christians should be leading the charge in respecting, loving, and praying for their leaders and government. Read the following passages.
  - 1 Timothy 2:1-2
  - Titus 3:1
  - 1 Peter 2:13-17
  - What principles in these passages are difficult for you to live out and why?
  - How can you more fully live in the tension of submitting to the governing authorities even when you do not like the decisions they are making? How can you more intentionally and purposefully pray for the governing authorities?
    - These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.

### **ROMANS 13:8-14**

- What would change about your life today if you lived each moment like you had no other moments in front of you?
- Why don't you think people typically live like this?
- Why don't you typically live like this if you don't?

- These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.
  
- How is it possible that the Law is summed up in loving one another?
  - When we are seeking to love others like Jesus, I am going to be intentional in looking at people through the lens of faith and with the love of Jesus Christ. This also means that I am going to have a willingness to speak the truth of Jesus Christ in love.
    - Which of the above do you struggle with the most in your interactions with people?
      - Looking at people with the love of Jesus Christ
      - Speaking the truth (God's word and not your opinions) to people
      - Speaking the truth in love (God's word and not your opinions)

### **Final Application**

- What does this passage teach us about God?
- What does this passage teach us about mankind?
- What is a command to obey in this passage?
- What has God revealed in your life that needs changing?
- What truth can be applied to your life about the gospel?

### **Closing & Prayer Requests**

- Have a designated person to capture and share (as appropriate) within the life group.
- What happens in life group, stays in life group.
- Don't forget get to confirm the next meeting date and time
- Also recruit someone to do the story for the following week (Romans chapter 14)

## **ROMANS CHAPTER 13 (STUDENT)**

### **Romans 13:1-2**

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