Stand Firm: study of 1 Peter "How to Live Facing Hostility" 1 Peter 2:13 - 3:7 October 22, 2017 / Pastor Shawn

1. I will choose to <u>submit</u> to every authority out of reverence for God.

¹³ Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, ¹⁴ or to governors who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right.

¹⁸ Slaves, in reverent fear of God, submit yourselves to your masters, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh. ¹⁹ For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God.

¹ Wives, in the same way submit to your own husbands....

1 Peter 2:13-14, 18-19; 3:1

♦Hypotassō (hü-po-tä's-sō): submit;place under;be subject to; stand, place, order & under; to live under the order

By submitting to those in authority, i will earn <u>influence</u> others don't have.

(see: 1 Peter 2:15; 3:1-7)

2. I will choose to use my <u>freedom</u> for your benefit.

¹⁶ Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves. ¹⁷ Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor. 1 Peter 2:16-17

WHEN I LIVE AS A FREE PERSON,
I DON'T WANT ANYTHING FROM YOU.
I WANT SOMETHING FOR YOU.

3. I will choose to <u>endure</u> Wrong-Doing just like Jesus did.

But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God.
 To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example that you should follow in his steps.
 1 Peter 2:20-21

(see also: 1 Peter 2:22-25)

WE DO <u>WHAT</u> JESUS DID SO PEOPLE MAY SEE <u>WHO</u> JESUS IS.

(see: 1 Peter 3:9)

Discussion Questions

- 1. What was your "A-Ha" from the message? Why did this stand out to you? Be specific.
- 2. If you could ask Pastor Shawn to clarify one thing he said in Sunday's message, what would it be? Why?
- 3. What message does my life "as is" send to people around me?
- 4. Of the three (3) Choices Pastor Shawn outlined, which one(s) do you need to work on most? Why? If you choose to make this choice, what difference would this make in your life? Make in the life of those around you?
- 5. What does it mean to submit?
- 6. Why should Believers submit even to unjust authorities? (Is there ever a time when a Believer should not submit to authority or unjust suffering? Is there ever a time to defend ourselves? If so, when and why?)
- 7. Have you ever seen acts of good, done in submission to those who've been antagonistic, "silence" those who are foolish? Have you ever tried this with those who didn't like you? What happened?
- 8. What does it mean, practically, to "entrust" your life into God's hands, especially during suffering or persecution? What are some hindrances to entrusting our entire lives (or hard situations) into God's hand?