

According to Peter, **mutual submission...**

- Is _____ that shares and _____ (5:2-3).

How can we practice mutual submission in our daily lives?

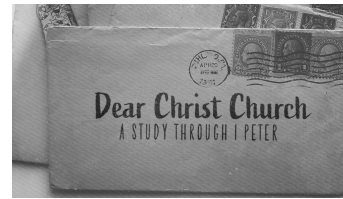
Dear Christ Church...

...If you bow low in God's awesome presence, he will eventually exalt you as you leave the timing in his hands. Pour out all your worries and stress upon him and leave them there, for he always tenderly cares for you. Be well balanced and always alert, because your enemy, the devil, roams around incessantly, like a roaring lion looking for its prey to devour. Take a decisive stand against him and resist his every attack with strong, vigorous faith. For you know that your believing brothers and sisters around the world are experiencing the same kinds of troubles you endure. And then, after your brief suffering, the God of all loving grace, who has called you to share in his eternal glory in Christ, will personally and powerfully restore you and make you stronger than ever. Yes, he will set you firmly in place and build you up. And he has all the power needed to do this—forever! Amen. 1 Peter 5:6-11 (TPT)

According to Peter, **we need to:**

- _____
Humility brings about peace in our hearts. When our hearts are at peace, we can be at peace with others, even in hard times.
- _____
Complacency is our most dangerous enemy. When we move from trial and conflict to relative peace, we instinctively get comfortable and let our guard down.
- _____
The most powerful force in this life is resurrection. Through it all, Jesus overcame the power of death. We who follow Jesus are meant to overcome the evil of this world together.

Sources: *The Daily Study Bible (Peter)* by Barclay, *The Communicator's Commentary (1-2 Peter)* by Ogilvie.



sermon notes

Mutual Submission Allows...

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CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG/SERMONS

Dear Christ Church...

...My purpose in writing is to encourage you and assure you that what you are experiencing is truly part of God's grace for you. Stand firm in this grace. 1 Peter 5:12 (NLT)

Main Themes of 1 Peter

- Suffering, conflict and persecution are realities in our world.
- The living hope of Jesus produces joy in our suffering, delivers us from danger and enables us to rely completely on God.
- God calls us to holy living as witnesses of God's grace.
- The life of faith is characterized by mutual submission.

What does it mean to submit?

- Submission can be defined as yielding to a superior force or to the will or authority of another.
- Submission can also mean to quit or give in due to pain or overwhelming pressure.

Dear Christ Church...

...your real home is not here on earth. You are strangers here. I ask you to keep away from all the sinful desires of the flesh. These things fight to get hold of your soul. When you are around people who do not know God, be careful how you act. Even if they talk against you as wrong-doers, in the end they will give thanks to God for your good works when Christ comes again. 1 Peter 2:11-12 (NLV)

Though this world tries to overcome us with evil, it is the promise of those who trust in Jesus to overcome evil with good.

Mutual submission allows _____ in difficult times.

What does mutual submission look like in 1 Peter?

Mutual Submission has two dimensions:

- Submitting in love to _____.
- Agreeing to a way of life rooted in _____.

For the Lord's sake accept the authority of every human institution, whether of the emperor as supreme, or of governors, as sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to praise those who do right. For it is God's will that by doing right you should silence the ignorance of the foolish. As servants of God, live as free people, yet do not use your freedom as a pretext for evil. Honor everyone. Love the family of believers. Fear God. Honor the emperor. 1 Peter 2:13-17 (NRSV)

Objection: Governments sometimes stand opposed to God's will. Aren't we called to oppose injustice as God's people?

According to Peter, **mutual submission...**

- Recognizes that _____ is our highest authority (2:13).
- Doesn't forbid _____ when the gospel is at stake (2:14).
- Puts _____ in their proper place (2:17).

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. For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God. 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 2:18-21 (NIV)

Objection: Peter seems to accept the institution of slavery here. Aren't we called to set the captives free?

According to Peter, **mutual submission...**

- Defines true freedom as _____ to outward circumstances we often cannot control (2:18).
- Makes us _____ of God (2:19) and more like _____ in character (2:21).

Wives, in the same way submit yourselves to your own husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, when they see the purity and reverence of your lives...the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight...Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.

1 Peter 3:1-2, 4, 7 (NIV)

Objection: Peter calls wives the "weaker partner." Doesn't scripture teach there's no male and female in Christ Jesus?

According to Peter, **mutual submission...**

- Breaks down barriers with _____ (3:1).
- Enables us to have a robust _____ (3:7).
- Sets the foundation for an even _____ (3:7).

To the elders among you...Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.

1 Peter 5:1-3 (NIV)

Objection: I'm not the leader of a church, so I don't see how this is relevant to my situation.