Crossroads International Church Matthew Lyle

2022-06-26 Series: The Sojourner’s Life

**Submissive Living**

***1 Peter 3:8-12***

**Submission in all relationships pleases God!**

**Introduction**

* Uniformity in appearance shows a cohesive group aligned for a specific purpose.
* A Christian’s identity is not found in appearance but actions and behavior.
* Peter links doctrine with practice, beliefs to behaviors.
* He is encouraging believers to practice submission in relationships.

I. **Live in Harmony with One Another** (v8)

 [Within the church, we are to be of one accord]

 A. Concludes the entire section on submission

 B. Refers to Believers

 C. Indicates traits or values needed to live in submission

 D. Similar to Phil 2:2-4

II. **Return good for evil, and you will inherit a blessing from God** (v9)

 [Verbally blessing unfriendly people allows God to reward believers]

 A. Follow in suffering in the example of Christ (1 Peter 2:21-23)

 B. Respond to Persecution with Blessings

 C. We are called to receive blessings

III. **Enjoyment from life stems from rejecting evil and pursuing good** (v10-12)

 [God rewards righteous behavior with blessings]

 A. Peter quotes from Psalm 34:12-16

 B. Consists of three commands

 C. Followed by rewards and punishment (carrot and stick)

Do you have any broken relationships that need to be mended?

Are you ready to establish a relationship with God?

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Principles

Harmonious relationships within the church are a priority for Christians.

The biblical behavior of a Christian can present a powerful witness.

Christians are to maintain a testimony for Jesus Christ even in the midst of serious opposition.

Application

Work diligently to promote harmony within your church.

Look for ways to demonstrate love, sympathy, and compassion.

Positive, biblical behavior and responses in all relationships can have a profound effect.

Everyone should live harmoniously with others. Even as we suffer under the hand of those who may be over us, we are to return good for evil and thus share our faith in Christ with others.

Where do you want to be boss but God wants you to yield