

BIBLE CHALLENGE - Submit to Leaders

Find and write below **four words** that tell us how we should treat **leaders**:

R _ _ _ _ _

I _ _ _ _ _

O _ _ _

S _ _ _ _ _

What should we imitate?

Why do you think it is important to remember that 'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever'? Why is it especially important when we are thinking about leaders?

How can we make the job of a leader joyful?

Why should we make the job of a leader joyful?

Hebrews 13.7-17

Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited those devoted to them. We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy places by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

Submit Yourself to Leaders

8 June 2025

1 Samuel 24.1-15 underline the name David.

When Saul returned from following the Philistines, he was told, "Behold, David is in the wilderness of Engedi." Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel and went to seek David and his men in front of the Wildgoats' Rocks. And he came to the sheepfolds by the way, where there was a cave, and Saul went in to relieve himself. Now David and his men were sitting in the innermost parts of the cave. And the men of David said to him, "Here is the day of which the LORD said to you, 'Behold, I will give your enemy into your hand, and you shall do to him as it shall seem good to you.'" Then David arose and stealthily cut off a corner of Saul's robe. And afterward David's heart struck him, because he had cut off a corner of Saul's robe. He said to his men, "The LORD forbid that I should do this thing to my lord, the LORD's anointed, to put out my hand against him, seeing he is the LORD's anointed." So David persuaded his men with these words and did not permit them to attack Saul. And Saul rose up and left the cave and went on his way. Afterward David also arose and went out of the cave, and called after Saul, "My lord the king!" And when Saul looked behind him, David bowed with his face to the earth and paid homage. And David said to Saul, "Why do you listen to the words of men who say, 'Behold, David seeks your harm'? Behold, this day your eyes have seen how the LORD gave you today into my hand in the cave. And some told me to kill you, but I spared you. I said, 'I will not put out my hand against my lord, for he is the LORD's anointed.' See, my father, see the corner of your robe in my hand. For by the fact that I cut off the corner of your robe and did not kill you, you may know and see that there is no wrong or treason in my hands. I have not sinned against you, though you hunt my life to take it. May the LORD judge between me and you, may the LORD avenge me against you, but my hand shall not be against you. As the proverb of the ancients says, 'Out of the wicked comes wickedness.' But my hand shall not be against you. After whom has the king of Israel come out? After whom do you pursue? After a dead dog! After a flea! May the LORD therefore be judge and give sentence between me and you, and see to it and plead my cause and deliver me from your hand."

Hebrews 13 7.17 (Please see BIBLE CHALLENGE for this passage)

Luke 22.24-27 underline the word serves

A dispute also arose among the disciples, as to which of them was to be regarded as the greatest. And Jesus said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you. Rather, let the greatest among you become like the youngest, and the leader as one who serves. For who is the greater, one who reclines at table or one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at table? But I am among you as the one who serves."

1. God's command is: 'Obey your leaders and submit to their authority.'

- ⇨ **Obey** – allow yourself to be persuaded by
- ⇨ **Submit** – cooperate with the leaders so that the leaders might become the best leaders that God desires. Good leadership is good for everyone.
- ⇨ **The Leaders** –
 - The leaders are keeping watch over your souls
 - The leaders have to give an account of their stewardship
- ⇨ **The People**
 - See that leaders can lead with joy and not with groaning
 - Otherwise the people will not receive the good from the leader's leadership
 - ***If you say 'they are not my leaders' then you are rejecting your place in the church***
 - How to submit to a leader:
 - be clearly FOR the leader – supportive and helpful
 - express your opinion clearly, calmly, kindly (and privately)
 - allow God to work on the leader's heart
 - seek to make the leader successful in every way, the best leader possible

2. David's example is 'My hand shall not be against you.'

Saul was demonized and dysfunctional yet still held the rightful leadership. David had every reason to kill Saul yet David left the outcome to God:
'May the Lord judge between me and you.'

- ***If you cannot submit to a leader in good conscience, then your only choice is to walk away respectfully.***

3. Jesus shows us what it means to be a healthy leader.

- ⇨ Healthy leaders do NOT:
 - Exercise 'lordship' over others
 - Seek honour for themselves from others
- ⇨ Healthy leaders become as one who serves:
 - God first
 - Then the people by serving God
 - Among those they lead, just like Jesus – not above, not below



Who are some leaders in your life? How do they lead you?

Leaders	How they lead you

How will you:

REMEMBER _____

IMITATE _____

OBEY _____

SUBMIT _____

to leaders in your life, especially in church?