

The King and I
Ecclesiastes 8:1-17
Pastor Nathan Hogan

Growth Group Questions

1. Last week the author reflected on the fact that sometimes the righteous perish and the wicked prosper. Why do you think that leads him to now discuss how we should relate to the king?
2. Why does the Bible repeatedly stress the importance of obeying and honoring our rulers? Why is this such a difficult thing for us to do?
3. What are some ways in which you are tempted to dishonor the ruling authorities in your life?
4. What are some of the reasons in this text that it is wise for us to obey and honor rulers?
5. How does the way we relate to ruling authorities impact our witness to the world as Christians?

6. Why is confidence in God's justice essential for us to wisely relate to the ruling authorities in our lives?

Next Week: Ecclesiastes 9:1-10

Titus 3:1-7

Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people. For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Psalm 128

Blessed is everyone who fears the LORD, who walks in his ways! You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands; you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you. Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table. Behold, thus shall the man be blessed who fears the LORD. The LORD bless you from Zion! May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life! May you see your children's children! Peace be upon Israel!