

## Connect Lesson March 5-6, 2022

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### “The Fear of the Lord”

#### **Message Recap**

I.

The bible tells us in Proverbs 9:10 that “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.” The fear of the Lord helps us understand who we are apart from Him and also who we are in relationship with Him. When we do not fear God, it shows that we are prideful. Just like the Pharisees and Sadducees, pride comes when we do not place God’s authority above our own thoughts and opinions. Humility goes hand in hand with fear of the Lord. Pride goes hand in hand with religion. Our prideful heart/attitude inside is what eventually will manifest prideful actions on the outside.

II.

In our Western culture of freedom and democracy, we often fall into the trap of criticizing those who lead us. From churches to workplaces, to governments - we are in a cultural habit of talking negatively about those who lead us. While we can disagree with policies and decisions, we are called to honor those in leadership. Unless we are asked to do something against God’s standards, we should be obedient to the authority under which our leaders operate. Romans 13:1-2 tells us that God has given leaders authority and that rebellion against them will cause us to be judged. This is very opposite to our American traditions, but the Kingdom of God often is.

III.

Isaiah 1:19 says the willing and obedient will eat the good of the land. Many times we can be obedient without being willing. We have a begrudging attitude in our hearts. Obedience deals with action but submission deals with attitude. When we are not only obedient but submissive, we will see the blessing of God on our lives and on His church.

#### **Read and Discuss**

##### **Read Isaiah 1:19**

1. What areas in your life have you had to ask God’s help in being obedient and willing?
2. How can we help those around us embrace these two principles?

##### **Read Proverbs 9:10**

1. How does fearing God bring wisdom?
2. Are there areas in your life where you can further embrace the fear of the Lord?

##### **Read Romans 13:1-2**

1. How can we protect ourselves from engaging in negative talk about our leaders?
2. What are some ways we can honor those we disagree with?

## **Scripture Reading**

### **Romans 13:1-2**

Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. **2** Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.

### **Proverbs 9:10**

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom,  
and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

### **Isaiah 1:19**

If you are willing and obedient,  
you will eat the good things of the land;