



- If Christians don't fit in, how are they to live? Aggressively? Withdrawn?

1. Live Beautifully in the face of Pressure v11-12

- Battle internal ugliness – sinful attitudes, temptation
- Live attractively – even when slandered, misunderstood
- Our lives are to point people to God

2. Live Submissively in the face of Authority v13-17

- Context – Nero is emperor!
- Christians are to be the best of citizens – law-abiding
- Motivation – not because laws are agreeable, but for “the Lord’s sake” v13
- Only exception is when we are required to disobey God

3. Live Graciously in the face of Injustice v18-20

- Primary application to slave = employees
- Wider application to unjust suffering v19
- Christians are called to be more conscious of God’s reputation than their own
- Christians are called to respond in a distinctly Christian way

4. Because Christ lived beautifully, submissively and graciously for your salvation v21-25

- Why should I live like this? Because the Christian is being made like Christ and owes everything to Christ
- a) **Led by his example v21-23**
 - Gracious in suffering and injustice
 - No retaliation, no threats, no fighting back
- b) **Overwhelmed by his sacrifice v24**
 - Why should I live beautifully for Christ?
 - Because he did this (v24) for me - Bore my sins, took my punishment, set me free
- c) **Changed by his power v24b**
 - “in order, that having died to sins, we might live for righteousness”
 - A change has taken place – we are now able to live in a right way.



Good morning and welcome this morning. We are having a bite of lunch after the service this morning and would love you to stay.

Notices

Sunday	Discussion time - on morning sermon. Questions below. At Day Centre	8pm
Tuesday	Bible Study at Stewart's - Chapter 13	8pm
Sunday	Sermon on I Peter 3:1-12	10.15am
Sat 12th	Film Evening - Robert & Judith's	7pm

Discussion Questions

(Bring your own questions, but these will do to get us started)

- In what ways can we live beautifully/attractively in the face of pressure?
- What are some of the implications for Christian employees/self employed/employers? What options are open to the Christian in a difficult work environment?
- When is it right to disobey the government? On what sort of issues?
- How can we know when it's proper to defend ourselves and when we should bear injustice?
- What do you find most challenging about Jesus' example?
- What do you find most striking about v24?

Christianity Explored



A 6-week course designed to let you find out the facts about Jesus, and to find answers to your questions the Bible and Christianity.

- You don't need to know anything about the Bible
- You won't be asked to read, pray or answer questions
- You will be given every opportunity to ask your own questions

If you're interested in finding out more, or having one in your home for friends to come to - speak to Mark