

## Daily Devotional. February 5, 2021 Submit to God and to One Another

***Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.” Colossians 3:23 (NIV)***

The generation of the 1980's and 1990's (and maybe early 2000's) has been affectionately named the "Millennials." They followed "Generation X," which followed my generation, the "Baby Boomers." Studies seem to show that Millennials have a far greater entrepreneurial spirit than those of us who came before. The problem is the reality of actual start-ups does not match their intentions. But they still dream of being their own bosses.

Even if you have your own business, you have bosses. Past experience has shown me they're called customers. If you cross them often enough, they go away, and your business can suffer for it.

Even if you are someone who does not have a job, you have bosses — or we might say — authorities. We live in a country governed by authorities. As citizens, we support our country with a portion of our resources, and we elect leaders to preserve and ensure the governing of the land. In return the government establishes laws, promotes an orderly way of life, and thus provides for the welfare of the people.

Citizenship comes with responsibilities but also with benefits. If someone tries to harm you, you have established legal recourse. If other countries try to harm us, our nation provides a military force to protect us. We agree to abide by the laws of the land for the good of every citizen. So even if you have no "boss" per se, every one of us who are citizens comes under the umbrella of the authority we agree to by virtue of our citizenship.

If we don't like the Constitution, the laws, or those officials we have elected, we are given the right to debate the issues and vote for change. And in our country (at the moment), we do not subscribe to vigilante rules", that is, the violation of established laws, injustice, or anarchy. So really, we all have a "boss."

Everyone submits to somebody. God ordains it. Children submit to parents, wives submit to husbands, husbands submit to wives, both submit to Christ, employees submit to employers, and we all submit to the law of the land. Sometimes that can be reassuring. Other times, we might not find it appealing. One huge misunderstanding as I see it is when we don't recognize the difference between leadership and importance.

God is a God of order. Leaders are not more important than others. For example, wives are equally as valuable as husbands. Children are just as important as parents. God has made relationships so that they function best when we lead and submit as God intended. We are all of equal value before God. You may have a different role or responsibility before God, but you are as important as any other person on Earth.

God created relationships and God knows what makes them work. And God knows what's best for all of us.

***Lord, forgive me for the times when I am rebellious. Teach me to be submissive and respectful to those in authority over me and to those whom I am in relationship with. Help me be a light in our dark world; let Christ shine through me. Give me eyes to see and ears to hear those around me who need to hear Your gospel truth. Thank You for Your great love and tender mercy toward me. In Jesus' Name, Amen.***