



Relationship Routine Maintenance

Small Group Questions for 3/22/20

1 Peter 3:1-7

Getting Started

Which of the following warning lights best represent where you are at in your life right now?

Work Issues

Relationship Conflict

Parenting Issues

Money Concerns

Health Concerns

Take a moment to read [**1 Peter 3:1-7**](#). What word or phrase or idea jumps out at you regarding how you do relationships?

Great relationships are founded on submission. In [**1 Peter 3:1,2**](#) Peter challenges wives to submit to their husbands. Submission is a military term that means to put the needs of another person over your own needs. Jesus is best example of what it means to submit ([**1 Peter 2:22-23**](#)), but we are all called to put the needs of others above ourself (see [**Ephesians 5:21**](#)).

- In what ways do you feel like you are called to put the needs of others above your own? (With your spouse, with your kids, at work, etc.)
- In what areas of your life do you find submitting most difficult?

Peter challenges wives to serve so their husbands *may be won over without words*. We correct with words. We debate with words. We swear with words. We attack with words. We don't win with words. How often do we try to win our battles with words?

- How have you seen this principle of winning people over without words lived out in your life?
- Is there someone close to you that does a good job at this?

Going Deeper

In [**1 Peter 3:3-6**](#) Peter tells us that relationships improve when we work on the inside not just the outside. Maybe it's time to do a simple evaluation. Consider how much time you spend getting ready in the morning. Now think to yourself how much time do you spend on your relationship with God? What are some practices you can put into your life to grow your character rather than focusing on outward appearance?

[**1 Peter 3:6**](#) says *do not give way to fear*. In what ways does fear keep us from being our best self in relationships?

[**1 John 4:8**](#) says *perfect love drives out fear*. What are some ways that we can love the people around us so that our love can drive out their fear?

In [**1 Peter 3:7**](#) Peter challenges husbands to respect their wives. There is an interesting article online that gives 6 ways we can respect each other. Take a moment to talk about how each of the following actions can show respect to the important people in your lives.

1. Listen

Everyone wants to feel that they're being listened to. Whether they have something profound to say is not the point. People want to be heard... period.

2. Affirm

When we affirm someone, we're giving evidence that they matter.

3. Serve

Life on earth is about serving others. To use our talents and abilities to make life better for others.

4. Be Kind

Kindness is a tangible way of showing respect.

5. Be Polite

Whether it's on the highway, at the grocery store, in the parking lot, on the athletic field, on Facebook, or in political rhetoric – polite discourse and interaction is rapidly becoming a lost art.

6. Be Thankful

When someone does something for you that's beneficial or they say something to you that's helpful in some way you should thank them.

For more information you can find the article at this link

<https://www.aconsciousrethink.com/8558/respecting-others/>