



TALK IT OVER

Our Talk It Over is prepared each week by the teaching pastor and is designed to prompt insights, questions and dialogue based on the life experience of each participant. Using these in a group setting after hearing the message is similar to the practices of the early church in Israel.

Warm-Up:

Think about a recent experience when you had to respond to someone in authority (a boss, teacher, police officer, or customer service worker). How did you feel in that moment, and how did you respond?

Discuss:

1. What stands out to you about Paul's call for believers to "be subject to rulers and authorities"? Why do you think this teaching is so challenging—both in the first century and today?
2. How does our culture's focus on personal rights and independence make submission and courtesy difficult to practice?
3. How does remembering God's mercy and kindness toward us (Titus 3:3–7) reshape the way we treat others, even those we disagree with?
4. What does this passage teach us about how faith should transform our speech, our thoughts, and our actions in everyday life?
5. Where in your life do you struggle most to show respect or gentleness toward others?
6. How might God be calling you to reflect his kindness and humility in a specific relationship or situation right now?
7. What steps can you take to stop the "thought–speech–action" cycle when frustration or anger begins to rise?
8. How does submitting to others in love reflect the example of Jesus?
9. If someone observed the way you speak about leaders, coworkers, or family members, what would they learn about your faith?



Apply:

This week, look for one practical opportunity to show kindness and courtesy in a situation where it would be easier to assert your rights or express frustration. It might be as simple as speaking gently to a customer service rep, choosing not to argue online, or thanking someone who serves behind the scenes. Afterward, reflect on how that act of humility affected both you and the other person.

Pray:

Gracious God, thank you for your mercy and kindness that changed our lives through Jesus Christ. Teach us to reflect that same spirit in how we think, speak, and act toward others. Help us to live with gentleness and respect in a world that often prizes power and pride. May our humility give others a glimpse of your love and draw them closer to you. In Jesus' name, Amen.