

1. Embrace identity as sojourners (temporary residents) and exiles (people who have been displaced from their homeland)

1 Peter 2:11-12 (ESV)

Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.”

Book recommendation: [“Exiles” by Preston Sprinkle](#)

“In the ancient world, the early Christians were viewed as countercultural radicals. Their allegiance to Jesus above all else often put them at odds with the broader society.”

2. Submit to authority as Christian witness

1 Peter 2:13-17 (ESV)

“Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.”

*“Submission”: the divine calling of a believer to honor and affirm the leadership of others while carrying out one's own role under God's guidance —***Wayne Grudem** (from [“Systematic Theology”](#))

*“A Christian should be a striking likeness of Jesus Christ. You have read lives of Christ, beautifully and eloquently written, but the best life of Christ is His living biography, written out in the words and actions of His people.” —***Charles Spurgeon** (from [“Morning and Evening”](#))

Instances in which civil disobedience is permitted:

1. When government commands what God outlaws
2. When government outlaws what God commands

Romans 13:1 (CSB)

“Let everyone submit to the governing authorities, since there is no authority except God, and the authorities that exist are instituted by God.”

3. Honor God in the workplace

1 Peter 2:18-20 (ESV)

“Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God.”

4. Follow Christ's example in suffering

1 Peter 2:21-25 (ESV)

“For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds, you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.”