

Sunday Text Questions for 1 Peter 2:18-25

January 14, 2017

Pastor Mickey Klink

- 1) Starter Question: What injustice, abuse, or mistreatment have you seen or experienced at work?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) V. 18 speaks of “servants,” but the same Greek word can equally mean “slaves.” How do those two options affect the sense of this verse, and which would you choose if you were a Bible translator?
- 4) Since slavery was so common in the ancient world and so different from American slavery (in many cases), how is it appropriate to compare Peter’s discussion of slaves serving masters in the first century to employees in the workplace today?
- 5) In v. 18 the phrase “with all respect” is key, since it is the Greek word also translated as “fear” and “reverence” and it is speaking not about the master but about God. How do vv. 16 and 17 in the previous passage make clear that our respect of authorities is really out of reverence for God?
- 6) How do vv. 18-20 suggest we honor God when we endure suffering unjustly?
- 7) Does v. 21 really suggest we have been “called” to follow the example of Christ’s suffering? Why do Christians so often speak as if Christianity has a lack of suffering as its goal or benefit?
- 8) Read Isaiah 53. In what ways does Peter borrow from Isaiah 53 in vv. 22-24?
- 9) How is this passage condemning sinful retaliation to injustice without prohibiting work that seeks to correct social injustices or the rights of the oppressed?
- 10) What are some practical steps we can take to endure injustice in our workplaces in a way that follows the gracious example of Christ?

Further study this week: Isa. 53 on Jesus the suffering servant (Mon); Eph. 6:5-9 on slaves and masters (Tues); Col. 3:22-25 on slaves and masters (Wed); 1 Tim. 6:1-2 on slaves and masters (Thurs); Gal. 3:26-29 on the end of masters and slaves in Christ (Fri).