

We encourage you to discuss the following in your home around the lunch table as a family.

▶ **Have everyone make a list of the authorities in your lives.**

▶ **Which one of these do you struggle following? Why?**

▶ **Why do we submit ourselves to authority?**

- 1 Peter 2:13-14
- Romans 13:1-7
- Psalm 22:28
- Daniel 2:20-21

▶ **What happens when we freely submit ourselves to authority in our lives?**

- 1 Peter 2:15-16
- Galatians 5:13

▶ **Who is honored when we submit ourselves to the authority in our lives?**

- 1 Peter 2:17
- Genesis 1:27
- Luke 10:33-34
- John 13:34-25
- Matthew 22:37-38
- John 14:15

What does this look like in the face of COVID-19?

“Now as we also consider this, we need to ask ourselves what would be the Christian, biblical approach to understanding what our responsibility is and then generalizing beyond our Christian responsibility to what should rightly be understood as the responsibility of every citizen, of every single human being, of every moral agent in the midst of this kind of crisis...The category of quarantine, of this kind of isolation is actually found in the five books of Moses. In the book of Leviticus, chapters 13 and 14, dealing with leprosy, the children of Israel are given specific quarantine instructions. And as you look at those instructions in Leviticus 13 and 14, they are not exactly what we are hearing right now from health authorities in the United States, but they are hauntingly similar.

The point is the stop of a contagion, the stop of a spread of an epidemic or a pandemic like COVID-19...The same logic we find in the book of Leviticus is the logic that is now coming from the White House, it's coming from the Centers For Disease Control and Prevention, it's coming from the World Health Organization. But we do need to note, and at this point Christians should find this a matter of reassurance, that it is believed by many medical authorities that Leviticus 13 and 14 are the very first records in human history of the category of quarantine...But as Christians looking to the New Testament, there's not an exact parallel, nor do we need one, but rather we have an overarching set of principles. We could start with Romans 13 where we are told to obey those who were in rightful authority...It comes in play with the understanding that the only grounds for a disobedience to that authority is a matter of disobedience when it comes to the worship of the one true and living God. The kind of general orders that are now being found throughout our society are not in conflict with that commandment. We are not in danger of bending the knee to Baal or to Nebuchadnezzar by obeying the rightful instructions and policies of our government.”

- Dr. Albert Mohler

