



1 Peter 2:11-17

Still Standing - Mar 15, 2026

Message Recap

Peter writes to believers living in a culture that does not share their faith and reminds them how to live faithfully without withdrawing, fighting, or blending in. Followers of Jesus are called to live in the world while representing a different kingdom.

First, Peter reminds believers that the greatest battle is not with culture or government, but within our own hearts. Sinful desires wage war against our souls, so Christians must build boundaries and habits that help them navigate temptation before it gains a foothold.

Second, Peter instructs believers to live such good lives among people who don't follow Christ that even accusations lose their credibility. A consistent life of kindness, generosity, and integrity makes the gospel visible over time.

Finally, Peter addresses how Christians relate to authority. Believers are called to respect and submit to governing authorities while recognizing that God alone holds ultimate authority. Mature faith respects people, loves the church, fears God above all, and honors authority where it exists.

Icebreaker / Personal Reflection

- **Icebreaker:**

What's your "go-to" coffee shop and order?

- **Reflection:**

What part of the message resonated with you the most?

Discussion Questions

- **Why do you think Peter describes sinful desires as a "war against your soul"? What defenses can you employ to protect against temptation and desire?**
- **Why do you think criticism of Christians is sometimes unavoidable even when someone lives with integrity?**
- **What acts of kindness, service, and generosity can make the message of Jesus visible to others?**
- **Peter calls believers to submit to authority "for the Lord's sake." What does healthy submission to authority look like today?**

- Which of Peter’s closing commands challenges you the most right now: respecting everyone, loving other believers, fearing God, or honoring authority?

For Additional Study

- **Matthew 5:14–16 NIV**

“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden... let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

Discussion Questions

- What does it practically look like to let your light shine in everyday life?
- How can good deeds open the door for people to see God more clearly?

- **Romans 12:17–21 NIV**

“Do not repay anyone evil for evil... Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.”

Discussion Questions

- Why is responding to wrong with goodness often more powerful than responding with anger?
- What is one situation in your life where choosing to “overcome evil with good” could change the outcome?