

OUTSIDERS

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The Outsider's Road
1 Peter 2:11-24

In a new place, have you ever experienced the tension between adapting and wanting to be yourself?

How should Christians respond to the unjust world around them?

1 Peter 2: 11-12 *Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles [outsiders], to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. 12 Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.*

I. When facing _____: take the high road

1 Peter 2:13-15 *Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, 14 or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. 15 For it is God's will that by doing right you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people.*

- Peter is NOT saying--
- Submit yourselves--
- Do right--

II. When tempted _____: take the high road

1 Peter 2:16-17 *Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves. 17 Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.*

- Live out your freedom--
- Show proper respect--

III. When facing _____: take the high road

1 Peter 2:18-20 *Slaves, in reverent fear of God submit yourselves to your masters, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh. 19 For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God. 20 But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God.*

- Peter is NOT saying--
- Peter IS saying--
- Commendable-*charis*--

Why take the high road? The high road is _____

1 Peter 2:21-25 *To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. 22 "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." 23 When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. 24 "He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed."*

Main Point: _____

Field Notes: Reflections From Outside

1. How do you tend to respond to unjust situations you are in?
2. What are you facing that you need to take the high road?
3. Who might you directly or indirectly influence by taking the high road as opposed to fighting or fleeing?
4. What would it look like to submit to unjust systems that are in place and live like free people in a way that subverts those systems?
5. How can the message of God's grace transform your world?

Interested in how to advocate for justice in the world?

- UMC - umc.org/how-we-serve/advocating-for-justice
- International Justice Mission - ijm.org

If you'd like to talk personally and confidentially w/Pastor Kris about your relationship with Christ, please email pastorkris@thevineva.org or call 215-237-4959 to set up an appointment.

