



# KING'S CHAPEL

## Daily Devotional - 1 Peter Study

Week 3 - Day 5

### Approaching God

**Read Proverbs 28:13** - *"Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy."*

**Open in Prayer:** Start today time with general confession. Take a deep breath, quiet your heart, then read through this prayer of confession. Make this prayer personal for you as you start your time today with the Lord. Ask God to meet with you today and to search your heart.

*"Dear Father, my sin is ever before me. I have desired control and that has only produced fear. I have desired power over others and that has only served to alienate them from me. I have desired my own comfort and that has only brought forth anger when my comfort was not achieved. I have sought the approval of others and have meticulously kept them from seeing my true self for fear of rejection. Idolatry plagues my heart! I am consumed with thoughts of self-aggrandizement, self-promotion and self-service. In my deepest parts, I doubt that you are God and I want to rule myself. I cry out to you, Father. Only you can deliver me. Show me the cross. For without Jesus' glorious robe of righteousness to cover my nakedness, I'll die. Show me the love of my beautiful Savior who gave up his glory and even his life that I might be delivered from idolatry. May the work of Jesus ever stir me towards radical, joyful obedience. May he be my reason for living and my eternal source of joy, hope, faith and love. Amen."*

### Today's Theme: Submission - ὑποτάσσω - "hypotássō"

This past week Peter introduced to the greek word "**hypotássō**" which is often translated - "Be subject to," or "submit to." A standard English dictionary defines the word submission as: the action or fact of **accepting** or **yielding** to a superior force or to the will or authority of another person. The Strong's Dictionary for the Greek New Testament is quite similar, but adds a layer of meaning. The word "**hypotássō**" means "to **systematically arrange yourself in order** under another." It is used 40 times in the New Testament, and functions as a borrowed military term. In the military there is always a strong sense of submitting to someone of higher rank. Because

Peter uses this word five times in 1 Peter, so it's important for us to examine this word at a deeper level. If we're honest, at first glance we cringe at the mention of the word. It evokes weakness, being a doormat, being controlled or even being trapped. The word reverberates in the fibers of our independent selves. We *have to* submit. But the Jesus gives us a picture into a life of submission that brings with it not simply death and oppression, or being taken advantage of, but rather of the freedom and new life that come from the act of yielding and surrender.

Today we are taking a break from the text of 1 Peter itself, to put into practice the act of yielding and submitting both our spirit and lives to our Lord, our Savior King, and our Prince of Peace - Jesus Christ through confession of sin. In this we can practice ourselves the first step of biblical submission, in light of the gospel promises laid out for us in scripture.

## Read: Biblical Passages on Submission

**What does this principle look like lived out in the bible?** As you read through the following passages, think about what it might have looked like to “yield,” to “surrender,” or to “arrange and organize your life” around the will and leadership of another. What was at stake in these moments? What would it have cost? What was gained in the act of surrender?

### The Birth of Jesus: Matthew 1:18-25, Luke 2:39-40

- **Matthew 1:18-25** - *Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.” When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son.*
- **Luke 2:39-40** - *When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.*

### The Life & Death of Jesus:

- **Luke 2:47-51** - *Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you.” “Why were you searching for me?” he asked. “Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?” But they did not understand what he was saying to them. Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them.*
- **Matthew 26:36,40**- *Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.”... He went away a second time and prayed, “My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done.”*
- **Philippians 2:6-9**— *[Jesus] Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place*

### Following Jesus:

- **Luke 5:4-5** - *When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.” Simon answered, “Master, we’ve worked hard all night and haven’t caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets.”*
- **Matthew 10:38- 39 & John 12:24-26** - *Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it. Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be.*

## Prayer Exercise

*"We are commanded to live a life of submission because Jesus lived a life of submission, not because we are in a particular place or station in life. Self-denial is a posture fitting for all those who follow the crucified Lord."*

*Richard Foster - The Celebration of Discipline*

**Prayer & Confession:** Now take some time to pray through the following statements and confess sin where the Holy Spirit pricks your heart. With each, come with a posture of humility and willingness to yield, surrender, or arrange your life around God's Word and will for you.

- Father, I confess that at times my success is more important to me than Your glory.
- Father, I confess that I have been neglecting my relational time with you because I am too busy living my own life.
- Father, I confess that I have neglected my family because of my work or hobbies.
- Father, I confess that I have spent more time building my kingdom than on building your kingdom.
- Father, I confess I love the approval of man, and I try to seek out their approval more than yours.
- Father, I confess that I have been living in my power rather than living in Your power.
- Father, I confess that I have trusted in my personality, my gifts, my experience and my training to have a successful Christian life rather than "trusting in the Lord with all my heart."
- Father, I confess that I am a fearful, selfish, prideful person and I have put on a mask so that people do not find out who I really am – a sinner, saved by grace, serving you in your power for your glory alone.
- Father, I confess that I rely on my own wisdom rather than relying on your Spirit to give wisdom.
- Father, I confess I want success in life for my fame more than I want to bring You honor for your fame.
- Father, I confess my busy-ness in life. I am so busy because I don't plan out my time and I care so much about what people think about me that they control my schedule.
- Father, I confess that my public life doesn't match the reality of my private life.
- Father, I confess that I have viewed success based on worldly standards.
- Father, I confess that I care more about what people think about me than what You think about me.
- Father, I confess that I have sought out false intimacy through pornography.
- Father, I confess that I have forgotten I am Your beloved son/daughter in whom You are well pleased.
- Father, I confess that I have small faith, and I want You to increase my faith.
- Father, I confess that sometimes I want to quit and throw in the towel.

**Father, in all these things, I long to surrender again to your will for me as revealed in your word, to be sensitive to your Spirit, and to experience your forgiveness and grace through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus on my behalf.**

**Close Your Time in Thanksgiving:** Read and respond to this Assurance of Pardon

**Psalm 32:3-5** - *While I kept silent, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Then I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD, and You forgave the guilt of my sin."*