



CELL GROUP MATERIAL

19 APRIL 2026

19 APRIL SERMON

Submit to Win

PASTOR BOBBY MATHEW

Icebreaker Question: Share about a time when you had to submit to someone else's authority or plan, even though it was difficult. What was the outcome?

Scripture Reading

Read together: **1 Peter 5:1-11**

Key Takeaways from the Sermon

1. **Leadership is stewardship, not ownership** - All authority ultimately belongs to God
 2. **Humility unlocks God's grace** - Pride resists God's flow of blessing
 3. **Anxiety reveals misplaced stewardship** - We carry what belongs in God's hands
 4. **Pain creates vulnerability** - The enemy targets our wounded places
 5. **Victory requires process** - Suffering is temporary; God's restoration is certain
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Discussion Questions

Part 1: Submit Your Position

Read 1 Peter 5:1-4

1. What positions of influence or authority do you hold (parent, team leader, mentor, etc.)? How does viewing yourself as a "steward" rather than an "owner" change your perspective?
 2. The sermon mentioned three wrong motivations for serving: compulsion, dishonest gain, and domination. Which of these temptations do you find most challenging? Why?
 3. How can we practically remember that we serve the "Chief Shepherd" in our daily responsibilities?
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Part 2: Submit Your Pride

Read 1 Peter 5:5-6

4. What does it mean to "clothe yourself with humility" as a daily practice? What would this look like in your life this week?
5. The sermon said, "God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble." When have you experienced God's grace flowing into your life through humility?
6. How does pride show up in subtle ways (in worship, in conversations, in conflicts)? Share examples from your own experience.

Part 3: Submit Your Problems

Read 1 Peter 5:7

7. The sermon described anxiety as "misplaced stewardship - carrying what belongs in God's hands." What burdens are you currently carrying that you need to cast on God?
 8. Why is it sometimes harder to trust God with our problems than to worry about them ourselves?
 9. What practical steps can you take this week to "cast your cares" on God rather than rehearsing them in your mind?
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Part 4: Submit Your Pain

Read 1 Peter 5:8-9

10. The sermon explained that the enemy targets people who are wounded or in pain. How have you seen this principle at work in your life or others' lives?
 11. What's the difference between pain that drives us to God and pain that the enemy uses to make us feel hopeless?
 12. Is there a hurt, disappointment, or offense you're holding onto that's making you vulnerable? How can this group support you in releasing it to God?
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Part 5: Submit to the Process

Read 1 Peter 5:10-11

13. The verse says "after you have suffered a while" God will restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. Why do you think God allows a process rather than instant victory?
 14. What "process" are you currently in that requires patience and trust in God's timing?
 15. How does knowing that "suffering does not get the final word" encourage you in your current situation?
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Practical Application

This Week's Challenge:

Choose ONE area to practice submission:

- **Your Position:** Serve someone this week without expecting recognition
- **Your Pride:** Apologize to someone you've been avoiding or humble yourself in worship

- **Your Problems:** Write down your top 3 anxieties and physically "cast" them to God in prayer
- **Your Pain:** Share your hurt with a trusted friend and ask them to pray for you
- **Your Process:** Journal about one area where you're waiting on God and choose to trust His timing

Accountability Partner: Pair up with someone in the group to check in mid-week about your chosen area of submission.

Prayer Time

Group Prayer Focus:

1. **Praise:** Thank God that He is the Chief Shepherd who cares for us
2. **Confession:** Confess areas where pride has blocked God's grace
3. **Petition:** Bring specific burdens, pains, and processes before God
4. **Declaration:** Declare together that you will submit to God's will and trust His process

Closing Declaration: *"God, I submit my position, my pride, my problems, my pain, and this process to You. I trust that after a season of suffering, You will restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish me. In Jesus' name, Amen."*

For Further Reflection

Memory Verse for the Week: *"Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you." - 1 Peter 5:6-7*

Additional Reading:

- James 4:6-10 (More on humility and submission)
- Philippians 2:5-11 (Jesus' example of submission)
- Psalm 55:22 (Casting burdens on the Lord)