

Submitting to God's Reign - 4/26/26  
Philippians 2:5-8

- I. The Kingdom of God
  - God's reign in the lives of people
  - Requires submitting to his will and allowing him to be your primary influence
- II. How to Submit to God's Rule
  - Accept that we are not in control of everything
  - Develop a humble attitude, knowing that we need help
  - Trust in God's ability to guide us
  - Decide we want to pursue a life of following the Lord and seek to do what he wants instead of being influenced by the world
  - Have regular and ongoing conversations with the Lord
  - Practice the spiritual disciplines of prayer, meditation, self-reflection, and reading spiritual material
- III. Other Tips to Submitting to God
  - Put a reminder Post-It note on your bathroom mirror – "Remember to talk to God today"
  - Lay a devotional book or the Bible on your coffee table
  - Get an accountability partner
  - Keep a journal
  - Participate in a small group or Bible study
- IV. Benefits of Submitting to God's Rule
  - Christ will live through you
  - You will learn to be content
  - You will experience peace
  - You will learn to see God

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

Philippians 2:5-8 - Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,<sup>6</sup> who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped,<sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found

in appearance as a human,<sup>8</sup> he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

Matthew 5:3-6 - "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."<sup>4</sup> "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted."<sup>5</sup> "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth."<sup>6</sup> "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled."

Galatians 2:19-20 - I have been crucified with Christ,<sup>20</sup> and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Philippians 2:12-13 - I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need. <sup>13</sup> I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

First Four Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous

1. We admitted we were powerless.
2. We came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.
3. We made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God
4. We made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.

Books on Submitting to God:

- *The Power in Surrender* by Sarah Jakes Roberts
- *A Godward Life* by John Piper
- *The Freedom of Surrender: 40 Days of Letting Go* by Mary DeMuth
- *Surrender to Love: Discovering the Heart of Christian Spirituality* by David G. Benner