



## **THE COMMITMENT TO SUBMIT TO THE CARE, CORRECTION, & PROTECTION OF THE LEADERSHIP PART II**

1. Read together the following passages: Hebrews 13:17, 1 Peter 5:1-3, 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13, Acts 20:28. After reading these passages, what questions still remain regarding a posture of submission?
2. Look back on your life to the places that the Holy Spirit refined you the most. Did those refinements come from ease or difficulty? How do you think we can adopt a mindset of Spirit refinement within disagreement?
3. Assuming the disagreement isn't heretical or immoral behavior from a pastor, we continue in prayer and ask ourselves, "before I approach my pastor (or anyone else) have I prayed"? This one question can be hard and challenging to ourselves to wait, but can save us from looking like a fool-responding out of emotion. What are the things you can ask the Spirit for, and to confirm for you, before you engage in conversation with anyone?
4. The second filter will always begin with questions. Questions before disagreement or accusation. What are good ways to form questions when in disagreement with your pastor (or anyone else)?
5. Read James 3:13-18. It seems to indicate two different postures- one that only has natural (demonic) wisdom and one that has wisdom from above. This posture is pure, peaceable, gentle, reasonable, and full of mercy. How can you refrain from engaging in conversation until your posture reflects these things? What if we miss out on the disagreement or conversation because too much time passes by?
6. When we have a conversation and still disagree, there are two questions that can help guide our submission to Scripture.
  1. "Do I trust that my pastors have prayed about this?"
  2. "Am I willing to biblically submit to the authority that God has placed in my life?"

On Sunday, Brian ended with a parable of a wife who verbally trusted and submitted to her husband but then didn't guard how she spoke to her children. What are ways in that scenario that she could strengthen her family and children's ability to trust their father, and what are ways she could destroy it? How might this scenario also be true in the church?