

**One Nation
“Justice for All”
- Selected Passages -
May 7, 2017 / Pastor Shawn**

As an Ambassador of Jesus Christ I will:

1. Defend the Dignity of ALL people.

¹⁵ For it is God’s will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people. ¹⁶ 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.

1 Peter 2:15-17

Timēsate (tē-mā’-sät): to place a high value, to honor.

*(Psalm 82:3-4; Matthew 25:34-40; Exodus 23:9
Leviticus 19:34; Deuteronomy 10:18-19)*

CHRISTIAN ASSUMPTION

INDIVIDUALS HAVE **INHERENT** VALUE AND NOBODY SHOULD
BE **MISTREATED** OR **DISCRIMINATED** AGAINST.

2. Respect our Government and its Leaders.

¹³⁻¹⁷ Make the Master proud of you by being good citizens. Respect the authorities, whatever their level; they are God’s emissaries for keeping order. It is God’s will that by doing good, you might cure the ignorance of the fools who think you’re a danger to society. Exercise your freedom by serving God, not by breaking the rules. Treat everyone you meet with dignity. Love your spiritual family. Revere God. Respect the government.

1 Peter 2:13-17 (Message)
(see also: Romans 13:1-7)

**WE LIVE ABOVE THE LAW
WE DON’T LIVE OUTSIDE THE LAW**

COMPASSION AND RELIGION **INFORMS** OUR LEGAL SYSTEM.
COMPASSION AND RELIGION MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO
UNDERMINE OUR LEGAL SYSTEM.

Discussion Questions

1. What was your “A-Ha” from Sunday’s message?
2. Does your family have a “coming to America” story? If so, are you able to articulate it? Come prepared to share with your Group your story.
3. What did you learn from this message that informed your opinion about the current refugee crisis?
4. Which of the following surprised you the most? Why?
 - The difference between a refugee and an immigrant.
 - The United States’ vetting process and the number of refugees vetted each year.
 - The extent of the humanitarian crisis in Syria.
5. With which part of the message did you most wrestle?
 - The concern for national security and our desire to be compassionate toward refugees.
 - The potential conflict between the role of religion and the role of government as it relates to human dignity and freedom.
 - The tension created because the U.S. Constitution grants us the freedom to believe anything we want, but not behave any way we want.
 - That compassion and religion should inform our legal system, but they must not undermine our legal system.
 - That there should be a limit to the expression of religion and the guiding principle of that limit should be dignity and justice for all people.
6. What is one practical step you can take this week to put people first and your politics second? How can this Group help you follow through?
7. Re-read all the verses on the outline and choose one to memorize.