

**Sermon Discussion Questions, June 27, 2010**  
***Our Responsibility to Governing Authorities, Dr. Rod MacIlvaine***  
Romans 13:1-7

1. Why are human governments designed? What would happen if we did not have governments? What role do you think government should play in America? How has that changed in the past few years?
  
2. Read Romans 13:1-2. How would you describe Paul's words in these verses? What theological reason does Paul give for the command? How does this reason affect your thinking? Do you think Romans 13:1-2 is an absolute? Why or why not? Acts 4:19, 5:29, Daniel 6:10
  
3. What do you do when two biblical commands come into conflict? Is it ever okay with God to obey one command and break the other?
  
4. Why should we submit to governing authorities? Romans 13:3-5  

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| I Peter 2:13-17 | Daniel 2:21 |
| Hab. 1:6-11     | Isaiah 45:1 |
  
5. Does this command apply to every form of government? To every level of government? To every quality of government? Based on Romans 13:6-7, what is our responsibility to the American government?
  
6. Do we always have to obey governing authorities? Is there a difference between submitting and obeying? Is this hard or easy for you? Why?
  
7. Is it ever okay to resist governing authorities? When? Exodus 1:15-21, Joshua 2:8-15. Can you name modern examples of governments who abuse their power? Name examples of people who resisted repressive governments? At what cost did they resist?
  
8. What are some things we as American Christ-followers can do when government commands run contrary to the Bible? How will you take a stand for Christ and at the same time live as a responsible citizen in this country?