

Grace Groups Homework  
**"What Difference Does It Make?"**

Mark 15:39

13 September 2020

**GETTING TO KNOW YOU**

1. Can you share a testimony of when your commitment to Jesus Christ cost you something? A relationship? A job? Something else?

**WORLDVIEW**

2. Christians are "exiles" (resident aliens) in this world because our citizenship is in heaven (1 Peter 1:1; 2:11; Philippians 3:20). How does that affect our loyalty to the caesars in our life (1 Peter 2:17)?

**GOING DEEPER**

3. The New Testament assumes that Christians will seek to follow the example of Jesus in their lives (1 John 2:6), yet the emphasis is upon following his example in his death. Why do you think this is?

4. Discuss the following statements regarding forgiveness:

"Nothing superficially seems simpler than forgiveness, whereas nothing if we look deeply is more mysterious or more difficult" (B. F. Westcott).

"God's forgiveness, properly understood, will give you vertigo. It will turn your world upside down" (Andy Constable)

“Christians are forgiven people, seeking forgiveness and forgiving other people” (Mark Beach).

Why do we find forgiveness so difficult and how does 1 Peter 2:24–25 empower us to forgive?

5. Jesus refused to defend himself but rather he “entrusted himself” to the Father (1 Peter 2:23). Can you think of other biblical examples where someone responded well by surrendering themselves to God and his sovereign ways?

Do you think this is what Peter meant by “being mindful of God” (v. 19)?

What can we do to develop such a practical theology?

6. Practically, in what way should you obey this passage?