Discussion Title: Authority	**Category**: Lifestyle

	Opening: When you hear the word "authority," what is your first reaction?	Pick 6 individuals to share. 5 minutes total.
Lesson:		
Q.	**What is the purpose of authority?** • Direct, protect, maintain order, promote unity, etc. • We "choose" to submit to authority.	Pick 1-2 individuals to answer each question (Q). Keep track of time during the discussion. Keep the discussion focused and on point. Avoid going off on a tangent topic. Additional notes:
Q.	**What happens when we choose not to submit?** • Penalty, conflict, chaos, etc.	
Q.	**What are the benefits of submitting?** • Saved from penalties, fines, late charges • Rewarded with raises, promotions, etc. We all the need to be under authority. • It makes us happy, secure, and confident. • We have difficulty when others don't submit. e.g. driving recklessly or drunk, an unproductive co-worker • We struggle submitting to those who refuse to submit themselves (i.e. the boss) • Submitting to authority sets you free Jesus calls all people to submit to his authority. Jesus was first submissive himself. **John 8:27-29** **John 12:49-50** **John 15:10** Note Jesus' submission: We are called to follow a humble, loving God!	
Q.	**What keeps us from submitting?** • Pride, independence, selfishness • A shallow understanding of Christ Jesus was emphatic about obedience! **John 8:31-32.** Need to hold to his teaching! It sets you free. Note **Matthew 28:18-20.** Surely Jesus will be with you always! **Conclusion:** Jesus is with you when you keep his commands and obey his authority.	Additional notes: