

Come join us this Sunday at 5pm for a Worship Launch Night in ICC Newmarket as we begin our 14 days of Prayer & Fasting with the ACC churches.

Historically, Christians have been a positive influence in society by promoting law and being charitable to the needy (Gal 2:10; Jam 1:27). They've built schools, hospitals, orphanages, and other helpful organizations that lift man up. They've fed the hungry, cared for the sick, housed the homeless, provided for widows and orphans, and visited prisoners with the Gospel. Christians have also promoted art, literature, music, and science. Certainly, there have been abuses in the name of Christianity; however, the historical record speaks favorably about Christian service. For the most part, believers have obeyed Scripture and become law abiding citizens rather than rebels. Scripture teaches Christians to think of government as a "minister of God" (Rom 13:4), to obey good leaders (Rom 13:1, 5; Tit 3:1; 1 Pet 2:13-15), pay taxes (Rom 13:6), regard rulers as "servants of God" who do His will (Rom 13:6), and to pray for them (1 Tim 2:1-2). We realize there is a legitimate sense in which the leaders of this world accomplish God's purposes by keeping harmony and promoting justice (Rom 13:2-4; 6-7). We do not blindly submit to their authority and should say no to governmental leaders when they command us to go against the commands of God (see Dan 3:1-18; 6:1-13; Acts 4:19-20; 5:28-29). The Christian obeys or defies human authority only as the Bible directs. Ultimately, those who obey God's word prove to be a blessing that promotes righteousness within a nation.

**PRAY & MEDITATE:** Psalm 103: Bless the Lord O my soul, forget not His benefits. (Pray the benefits and blessings in Psalm 103 over our nation, our family, and lives). Pray for all the outreach (Alpha, outreach services) and community activities (feeding program, MCC, Reckon etc) we are doing, that the word of God may be preached with signs and wonders following.

Link to all devotionals: [iccbribsbane.org/journaling](http://iccbribsbane.org/journaling)