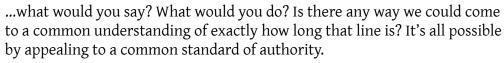


Authority (noun): the power or right to determine, control, command, judge, or prohibit the action of others; dominion; jurisdiction.

You interact with authority every day. You submit yourself to authority every day. You depend on authority every day. At the gas pump. In the grocery store. When you look at a clock. As you use money. When you drive. As you leave the pharmacy.

If you're asked how long this line is...



With that simple principle in mind, here's a really important point to grasp: God is the ultimate standard of authority. Listen to what he said to the Israelites in Leviticus 18:1-5:

"Speak to the people	of Israel and say t	o them, I am the LORD your
God You shall there	fore	my statutes and my rules; if a
person	them, he shall live	e by them: I am the LORD."

Disciples of Jesus in the New Testament are called to "be _____" as "he who called you is holy" (1 Pet 1:13-16). His thoughts and ways are infinitely higher than our thoughts and ways (Isa 55:8-9), and he is the ultimate source of authority. Which means?

- My _____, hunches, or goals (Prov 14:12)
- My _____ personal experiences (Matt 7:21-23)
- My ______(Matt 10:37)
- The _____(Matt 7:13)
- Religious _____ (Mark 7:6-8)
- My own ______ (Acts 26:9)

...not the ultimate standard of authority.

So what do we need to do? Make sure we "understand what the will of the Lord is" (Eph 5:17). And where can we find that? "All ______ is breathed out by God" (2 Tim 3:16-17). So let's talk about it...













For Class & Family Discussion:

In your own words, what is authority?

