

SUBJECT: CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS STUDIES CLASS: S S 3

SECOND TERM

WEEK 1

TOPIC: THE NEED FOR ORDER IN SOCIETY

BIBLICAL REFERENCES: Roman 13: 1-7, 1 Pet. 2: 13-17

CONTENTS:

- (a) Submission to those in legitimate authority
- (b) People in authority to serve with the fear of God Roman 13: 1-7
  - i. The Nigerian constitution
  - ii. The African Charter on Human and Peoples right
  - iii. The UN declaration on Human Rights
  - iv. Peters message on the duties of a good citizen

THE NEED FOR ORDER IN SOCIETY

This is the rights, obligations and duties of citizens in a country. For a society to be orderly, the rights of the citizens must be guaranteed by law, just as the citizens have obligations to perform in spite of any social status.

Order is very important for peaceful co- existence. The lives and properties of citizens are protected while disorderliness will create lawlessness and insecurity.

SUB-TOPIC 1: SUBMISSION TO THOSE IN LEGITIMATE AUTHORITY

Paul admonished all Christians to be subject to those in authority, for there is no authority except those from God; all existing authorities are instituted by God, to resist them therefore is to resist God. Such resistance definitely will earn Gods wrath or judgment. He advised Christians to obey the ruling authority, pay their taxes, honour all men and love the brotherhood.

Rulers are not terrors to a good citizens, but to the bad citizens, for they have been appointed by God to punish offenders and reward those who do right. By doing the right thing, a good citizen put to shame the ignorance of foolish men.

Christian should live as free men without using their freedom as pretext for doing evil. But rather they should live as servants of God. Peter encouraged Christians to honour all men, love the brotherhood, fear God, keep His commandment and Honour the King.

Therefore to live as good citizens, Christians are to:

Always do what is right to satisfy their conscience.

Pay their taxes as at when due.

Respect constituted authorities.

Honor their rulers.

Express grievances through constitutional means/ dialogue and not through violent demonstration.

Shunning membership of secret cult.

Taking part in public enlightenment/ campaigns to eradicate illiteracy, communicable diseases, child abuse, hard drug peddling, bribery and corruption, etc in the society.

#### SUB-TOPIC 2: PEOPLE IN AUTHORITY TO SERVE WITH THE FEAR OF GOD

Those in authority are expected by God to serve with the fear of God. They are to do away with partiality, favoritism, tribalism, embezzlement, fraud etc

#### THE NIGERIAN CONSTITUTION

The rights and freedom of Nigerians are embedded in the Nigerian constitution. These rights are called fundamental human rights. Right can also be called freedom and benefits that are guaranteed to people by law. These are the fundamental rights that are written in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 chapter IV sections 33-46, pages 18-26. They include:

1. Right to life: No one shall be deprived intentionally of his life.
2. Right to dignity of human person: No one shall, for instance, be subjected to inhuman treatment.
3. Right to fair hearing: Every individual entitled to a fair hearing within a reasonable time by a court or other tribunal established by law without partiality.
4. Right to private and family life: The privacy of citizens, their homes, correspondence, and telephone conversation is guaranteed and protected.
5. Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion: This does not entitle any person to form, take part in the activity or be a member of a secret society.
6. Right to freedom of expression and the press: Every Nigeria is free to express him or herself.
7. Right to peaceful assembly and association: Every person shall be entitled to assemble freely and associate with other persons.
8. Right to freedom of movement: Every Nigeria is entitled to move freely throughout Nigeria and to reside in any part thereof.
9. Right to freedom from discrimination: No citizen of Nigeria is expected to be discriminated

against sex, religion or political opinion.

10. Right to acquire and own immovable property anywhere in Nigeria.

Human rights of citizens of a country can also be found in the U.N declaration on human rights and African charter on human and peoples right