



JONATHAN PROJECT

Small Group Discussions on
Christian Values in Politics

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Small Group Discussions on Christian Values in Politics

With the separation of church and state, what is the role of Christianity in government? As believers in Christ, we should be concerned with the faith, values and direction of our elected leaders. Prayerfully making choices and exercising our right to vote is a Christian duty. This four-part series explores the scripture directing us and poses questions about the role of Christians in politics and how Christianity shapes our decisions.

Subject: Voting and the Role of Government as a Christian

Titus 3:1

Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good.

Romans 13:1

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

Proverbs 29:2

When the righteous increase, the people rejoice, but when the wicked rule, the people groan.

Deuteronomy 17:14-20

When you come to the Land that Lord your God is giving you, and you possess it and dwell in it and then say, 'I will set a king over me, like all the nations that are around me,' you may indeed set a king over you whom the Lord your God will choose. One from among your brothers you shall set as king over you. You may not put a foreigner over you, who is not your brother.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Are we prayerfully considering our choices before heading to the polls to vote?
2. As a society, are we submissive and obedient to those in office?
3. Do we understand the role we play in government as Christians? What is that role?
4. Are we glorifying God in the decisions we make for our families and communities?
5. As Christians, are we defending our faith and values at the polls?



Subject: Glorifying God

Mark 12:29-31

29: "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30: Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' 31: The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. With the decline of civility in modern politics, are we practicing the greatest commandment?
2. How do we, as Christians, exercise this commandment as it relates to our political discourse?
3. Has social media made it easier to stray from this path?

Matthew 28: 19-20

Go therefore and disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Are our leaders helping to spread Christian love to other nations?
2. Are our leaders helping to spread Christian love in our country?
3. Do we feel secure that our values matter?
4. How do we ensure that we are voting for people who will glorify God?
5. Is Christ at the center of our voting?



Subject: Integrity

Exodus 18:21

But select capable men from all of the people – men who fear God, trustworthy men who hate dishonest gain – and appoint them as officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The value of integrity exhibits obedience to God and the practice of a moral code of ethics, morals, and values. Integrity will produce honor, truth and reliability at home and in the workplace.

1. How can we embody these attributes to not only develop deeper relationships, but to develop other's confidence in us and in Christianity?
2. When we look at our government and those that serve, are we troubled by the moral decay, inconsistency, and a lack of values?
3. How do we choose leaders who embody the key Christian core value of integrity?

1 Timothy 1:5

The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

As Christians:

1. Do we demand integrity from our leaders? How do we hold them accountable?
2. Have we lowered the bar of what a leader is supposed to be? Would today's leader hold up to the leader described in Exodus 18:21?
3. Is integrity missing from our political system? If so, how do we – as Christians, work to instill our core values in the political system?
4. What values should our political leaders have? Does this vary from the values we place on the heroes our society idolizes elsewhere, such as sports, business and entertainment?
5. Do we model the behavior expected of leaders in our own circles of influence?



Subject: Loyalty

Proverbs 24:21

My son, fear the Lord and the king, and do not join with those who do otherwise.

Proverbs 20:6

Many a man proclaims his own steadfast love, but a faithful man who can find?

Acts 5:29

But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The value of integrity exhibits obedience to God and the practice of a moral code of ethics, morals, and values. Integrity will produce honor, truth and reliability at home and in the workplace.

1. Are we showing loyalty to Christ through the candidates we vote for?
2. Are we voting for leaders who are leading from a morally and fiscally responsible position?
3. Do we show loyalty to our family unit in a way that builds a Christian worldview?
4. How do we embody the core Christian values of glorifying God, integrity and loyalty when we vote and shape the local, state and national government?
5. What are you or have you taught your children about these values as it relates to politics?