

The Gospel Changes Everything *Small Group Discussion*

FIVE

POLITICS PART 2

DISCUSSION OVERVIEW

Christ is our King – so how do we engage with others, with the purpose of being a blessing, when our political views we hold may be different than theirs?

SERIES OVERVIEW

Why have so many efforts to change our world proven ineffective, or even destructive? What does it mean to be a faithful presence of Christ in this world? This series will explore how the church can play a role in affecting positive change. The gospel, rather than politics or worldly power or wealth or social media or reclusiveness, changes everything.

POSSIBLE FURTHER DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What does scripture say?
- What does culture say?
- Which voices are speaking to you too quietly or too loudly?
- Where does Christ come into play / redeem this?
- How is this issue helping or hindering human flourishing?
- Where is the hope misplaced here?
- How can you lean into gospel power vs. weight of this issue?
- How does this affect our small group?
- How can you be a faithful presence in your life?

LOOK *What do we see around us and in our lives?*

**When do you find it easy to follow a leader?
When is it harder for you to follow?**

BOOK *What does Scripture say about this?*

Ephesians 2:19-22

¹⁹ Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. ²¹ In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. ²² And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Philippians 1:27

²⁷ Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel

Colossians 1:15-17

¹⁵ The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

Where does scripture remind us of our citizenship?

Possible answers: we are ambassadors and foreigners here, our citizenship is in heaven

What does this allegiance to Jesus look like in our lives?

The Gospel Changes Everything *Small Group Discussion*

How does this passage/discussion fit into the story of the Gospel?

Story of the Good News of Jesus.

Creation

God makes all things and they are good

Fall

God's people turn away from God, things are broken. Death and sin rule over all things.

Redemption

God, through Jesus' death and resurrection, rescues his people and defeats death and sin.

Restoration

Jesus returns to be with his people, end all brokenness, and make all things right.

THE GOSPEL *The Good News of Jesus*

What does it look like to interact, engage, collaborate, or unify with people that hold beliefs other than ours?

Possible answers: find kingdom values held by those I may politically disagree with, approach conversations humbly or with an open ear, realize I don't always have the "right" answer

Ephesians 4:2-6

² Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. ³ Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

This article may be helpful for discussion:

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/6-ways-christians-wiser-political-engagement/>

Which parts of this world do I not believe or think Christ is King over?

Answers will vary.

Accountability/Reflection

Share together and pray for each other

TOOK *What will you take away from today's discussion?*

Possible questions to consider:

Consider what God is telling you stop, start, change, or continue.

What part of the gospel do you forget and need to remember this week?

Who do you know who needs to know the truth you discussed today?