

# THE GOSPEL AND POLITICS

Today we will discuss two facets of how Christians should relate to others in the realm of politics:

1. How Christians are called to relate to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. How Christians are called to relate to \_\_\_\_\_ when it comes to political views.

## How are Christians called to relate to those in authority? (Romans 13:1-7)

We are to submit to \_\_\_\_\_ because God put them there and if we rebel against these authorities, we are \_\_\_\_\_ and we will be punished.

1. We are to \_\_\_\_\_ for those in authority. (1 Timothy 2:1-2)
2. We are to play the \_\_\_\_\_, not the \_\_\_\_\_.
3. We need to pray for \_\_\_\_\_. (Luke 3:12-14 and Romans 12:2)
4. We are not to \_\_\_\_\_ follow, specifically when government commands \_\_\_\_\_ with God's commands.

## How are we to relate to each other, especially those that disagree with our political views?

1. The best alternative is to treat one other as \_\_\_\_\_. Treat them as \_\_\_\_\_ would.
2. God's people are to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ together! (Ephesians 5:18-21 and 1 Corinthians 1:10)

## Why do we passionately disagree with other Christians over politics?

1. Because we strongly believe in \_\_\_\_\_ and believe that our own \_\_\_\_\_ promote justice.
2. We have differing degrees of \_\_\_\_\_, yet believe that we have more \_\_\_\_\_ than those who differ.

## Why must we agree to disagree with Christians on jagged-line political issues?

1. Christians \_\_\_\_\_ fellow Christians who have different viewpoints. (Romans 14:1-4 and Romans 15:7)
2. Because insisting jagged-line issues are straight-line issues \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

## How must we agree to disagree with Christians who disagree with us?

1. Acknowledge \_\_\_\_\_ on jagged-line issues.
2. Unite to accomplish the \_\_\_\_\_ gave the Church.
3. Prioritize \_\_\_\_\_ each other over \_\_\_\_\_ others that we are right.
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_ those that disagree with you into your circle.
  - b. Be slow to speak and quick to listen.
  - c. Pray \_\_\_\_\_ for one another.
  - d. Respectfully \_\_\_\_\_ those with whom you disagree.
  - e. \_\_\_\_\_ one another.

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

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- What are some practical ways you submit to someone who disagrees with you politically? How can you do them better and better?
- Why do you think it is particularly challenging to respect someone who disagrees with you when it comes to political matters?
- Describe a time someone disagreed with you politically in an honorable way. How did it make you feel? What did he or she do or say?
- How do you pray for those with whom you disagree politically?

