

Week of October 6, 2024

Speaker: Mark Delaney

Politics



Icebreaker



- If you could represent any country as an ambassador, which would it be and why?
- If you could have dinner with any historical figure, who would it be and what would you ask them?
- What's one law or rule you would create if you were in charge for a day?



Discussion Questions



- In 2 Corinthians 5:20, we're called Christ's ambassadors. How does being an ambassador of Christ shape the way we engage with the world, especially in political discussions?
- Politics creates tension in our hearts. How can we manage our emotions and maintain our witness as Christians in political conversations?
- What does it mean to "protect unity" within the church, especially when people have different political views?
- How do we align our political participation with biblical truth rather than just cultural or personal preferences?
- In what ways do we risk losing our identity in Christ by placing too much importance on political issues?
- What steps can we take to prioritize being set apart as a holy nation in our families, workplaces, and communities, especially amidst political tensions?
- We can easily allow political allegiances to consume us. What practices can help us stay grounded in our primary allegiance to Christ?
- How does our responsibility to love our enemies apply to political figures or parties we strongly disagree with?



Thought for the Group



We are Christ's ambassadors. That means we represent Him in everything we do, including how we engage with politics. We are called to show Christ's love, truth, and grace to everyone, even in the middle of political disagreements.

The world will try to define us by political labels, but our true identity is in Jesus. He is who we represent. We've got to ask ourselves: are we more passionate about our political stance than we are about sharing Jesus with others?

The church should be a place where we love each other, even if we don't agree on every political issue. Let's protect our unity as believers and remember that our mission is bigger than any political party.

Jesus calls us to pray for our leaders (1 Timothy 2:1-4). Not just the ones we like, but all of them. When we pray for those in authority, we align our hearts with God's will and trust Him to move.

We are called to live holy lives, set apart for God. That doesn't mean we disconnect from the world, but it does mean we engage differently. We shine the light of Jesus in the way we love, the way we speak, and the way we treat others—even those who think differently.

We're not defined by our political views—we're defined by Christ. Let's be the kind of people who love well, pray for our leaders, and live in a way that shows the world who Jesus really is.



Next Steps



- Commit to praying daily for a political leader you disagree with for the next 7 days. Ask God to guide, protect, and bless them, and to soften your heart as you pray for them.
- For the next week, before you post on social media or speak about politics, ask yourself: "Does this reflect my identity as an ambassador of Christ?"