

## **We Don't Talk About**

Part 5: Politics

November 6, 2022

*Don't get involved in foolish, ignorant arguments that only start fights. A servant of the Lord must not quarrel but must be kind to everyone, be able to teach, and be patient with difficult people.* (2 Timothy 2:23–24, New Living Translation)

### **HOW DID JESUS HANDLE POLITICS?**

*After that. . . the leading priests, the teachers of religious law, and the other leaders of the people began planning how to kill him.* (Luke 19:47, NLT)

*Jesus answered, 'My Kingdom is not an earthly kingdom. If it were, my followers would fight to keep me from being handed over to the Jewish leaders. But my Kingdom is not of this world.'* (John 18:36, NLT)

- **Pledge your allegiance to Jesus Christ over country or political party.**

### **SHOULD CHRISTIANS BE INVOLVED IN POLITICS?**

*The commander brought Paul inside and ordered him lashed with whips to make him confess his crime. He wanted to find out why the crowd had become so furious. When they tied Paul down to lash him, Paul said to the officer standing there, 'Is it legal for you to whip a Roman citizen who hasn't even been tried?'* (Acts 22:24–25, NLT)

*So the commander went over and asked Paul, 'Tell me, are you a Roman citizen?' 'Yes, I certainly am,' Paul replied. 'I am, too,' the commander muttered, 'and it cost me plenty!' Paul answered, 'But I am a citizen by birth!'* (Acts 22:27–28, NLT)

- 1. Use your earthly citizenship to serve God's Kingdom.**

*Paul realized that some members of the high council were Sadducees and some were Pharisees, so he shouted, 'Brothers, I am a Pharisee, as were my ancestors! And I am on trial because my hope is in the resurrection of the dead!'* (Acts 23:6, NLT)

- 2. Leverage political parties to build God's Kingdom.**

*That night the Lord appeared to Paul and said, 'Be encouraged, Paul. Just as you have been a witness to me here in Jerusalem, you must preach the Good News in Rome as well.'* (Acts 23:11, NLT)

*But Paul replied, 'No! This is the official Roman court, so I ought to be tried right here. You know very well I am not guilty of harming the Jews. If I have done something worthy of death, I don't refuse to die. But if I am innocent, no one has a right to turn me over to these men to kill me. I appeal to Caesar!'* (Acts 25:10–11, NLT)

### **3. Exercise your rights to further God's goals.**

- **Money** - Which candidate is going to be better for our economy?

*If you help the poor, you are lending to the Lord—and he will repay you!* (Proverbs 19:17, NLT)

- **Life** - Which candidates support the sanctity of human life—starting in the mother's womb?

*You [God]. . . knit me together in my mother's womb.* (Psalm 139:13, NLT)

<https://www.texasallianceforlife.org/voter-guide>

- **Sexuality** - Which candidates support a Biblical definition of marriage, family, and gender?

*From the beginning 'God made them male and female. 'And he said, 'This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.'* (Matthew 19:4–5, NLT)

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*When the godly are in authority, the people rejoice. But when the wicked are in power, they groan.* (Proverbs 29:2, NLT)

### **Regardless of who wins, we will pray for them!**

*Pray... for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity.* (1 Timothy 2:2, NLT)

*The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Messiah, and He will reign forever and ever!* (Revelation 11:15, Holman Christian Standard Bible)