

AS YOU APPROACH THE ELECTION AND THIS POLITICAL SEASON, MAY THESE PRINCIPLES "GUIDE" YOU AS A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST.

- ✓ I will commit my ultimate loyalty and allegiance to Jesus and his teaching over any political candidate or party. (Matthew 22:21)
- ✓ I will remember that every person is made in God's image and will treat others with respect, never demonizing or dehumanizing those with whom I disagree. (James 3:9-10)
- ✓ I will allow the Biblical vision of God's Kingdom to challenge and shape my views rather than using the Bible to bolster my predetermined opinions. (2 Timothy 3:16; Psalm 119)
- ✓ I commit to engaging in political discussions with speech that is marked by the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, & self-control. (Galatians 5:22-23)
- ✓ I will use social media in ways that reflect my relationship with Jesus Christ as my first priority, my opinions and enthusiasm for political ideology second. (Colossians 4:5-6)
- ✓ I will prayerfully filter my political engagement through Jesus' command to Love God, Love People, and Serve the World. (Mark 12:29-31; Micah 6:8)
- ✓ I commit to the biblical command to be a peacemaker rather than a divisive presence, especially among Christians, striving for the unity for which Jesus prayed. (Romans 12:10,18; Ephesians 4:3; John 17:20-23)
- ✓ I will ask God for the maturity and humility to accept that good people who love God and trust scripture may vote differently, and when it comes to my family of faith, though I may disagree politically, I will love unconditionally. (Ephesians 4:3-6)
- ✓ I commit to loving and praying for my so-called political enemies, especially those I have the hardest time loving and praying for. I will obey the command to pray for our government leaders, regardless who wins the election. (Matthew 5:43-44; 1 Timothy 2:1-2)
- ✓ I recognize that in early November someone will win the election and someone will lose it, but the reputation of Jesus and the witness of His Church wins or loses based largely on how we treat people between now and then. (Colossians 4:5-6)
- ✓ I will remember that whoever sits in the Oval Office, God is on the throne; therefore, regardless of the outcome of the election I will trust God with the future. (Matthew 6:33-34; Philippians 4:6-7)