

Message Based Questions 8/9/20

Politics & Religion – Part 2

Passages: John 17; John 13:34-35; 1 Cor. 9:19; Galatians 6:2

1. Take another look at Jesus's final prayer request for us (John 17). How are you praying for unity? Are we willing to be followers of Jesus Christ first and then followers of politics? How can you lean into this?
2. Consider the "Law of Christ" that Paul uses in his teachings. It's based on John 13:34-35, "Love one another as I (Jesus) have loved you." Discuss and reflect on the ways Jesus has loved us. Is there someone you can show this same kind of love to? (Often this is someone close to us or currently causing some irritation!)
3. Read together from different versions 1 Corinthians 9:19 and Galatians 6:2. What do you observe? How do these verses give us ways to live out the Law of Christ?
4. Pastor Rick shared about a tension point in the way we acquire knowledge and that our views aren't formed in a vacuum. "Where you stand depends on where you sit." Take turns sharing about your frame of reference, with stories of your background that have shaped you.

Three things to consider for this week:

1. **Listen** to new perspectives. Who can you ask questions of and truly listen?
2. **Learn:** be a student not just a critic.
3. **Love:** don't destroy relationships. "The you beside you is more precious to God than your view!"

Resources for this series:

- *Christians in an Age of Outrage* by Ed Stetzer
- *How the Nations Rage* by Jonathan Leeman. Free discussion guide and 10-day devotional at author's website: <https://9marks.myshopify.com/products/how-the-nations-rage>
- *God Politics* by Jim Wallis