

Church & Politics | 10/11/2020

A Seattle Church: [@ASeattleChurch](#) | [Pastor Eugene Cho](#)

WARM-UP: Together

1. If you could live in another country where would it be?
2. Who is a favorite author or actor?

WORD: Truth

Leader: Questions below should allow for quick responses, evident by close reading of the text. Choose to use some or all of them (pending pace), as reading of the passage(s) will answer them as well.

- **Sermon Recap (if helpful):** Pastor Eugene invited us to re-consider our engagement with politics. To let our Theology drive our engagement with things considered partisan and political. He shares that Christians typically interact with politics in three ways. Disengaged due to fatigue or by only focussing on spiritual things. Obsessed, making everything political. Finally he urges to be engaged in politics and to be faithful and have integrity, even in this moment.

Jesus cares about the collective flourishing. Politics matter because they inform policy which influences people. His prayer is for the Gospel and the Bible to be the things which inform our politics and everything else in our lives. He shares ten topics in his book and expands on five. They are 1) the danger of Cultural Christianity. To conform God into our own image. If we read the Word of God and are not convicted or stirred we may be in this camp. 2) Don't go to bed with political parties. Care about people, our neighborhoods, our community and nation. 3) Don't just vote. Seek to be good citizens, not just by voting once every four years but by living with intentionality every day. 4) Keep fellowship and unity with the church. Stay involved with your church even where there are differing opinions. 5) Personal as well as structural change is needed. We diminish systemic and institutional evil in our world. It must be combatted. This work of engaging in the political realm is not possible alone, but requires the people of God and the Spirit of God.

Read Matthew 5:1-10:

If helpful read in three chunks (vv 1-2, 3-6, 7-10). Questions follow this breakdown.

Read vv 1-2:

- a. What is going on in this text?

Read vv 3-6:

- b. Who is Jesus speaking to or about? (Those who are marginalized) How does Jesus' heart for the marginalized inform the way we live?

Read vv 7-10:

- c. Who is Jesus speaking about? (Those who choose to stand in solidarity with the oppressed) How does this inform or how should it inform the way we live?

APPLICATION: Equip (“Way”)

1. How is God calling you to engage in politics? What has been the struggle?
2. Which of the five points Pastor Eugene shared challenged you most? How can you live into that challenge?

PRAYER Empower (“Life” in the Spirit)

1. Spend time praying for our nation.
2. Do you have a specific prayer request?
3. How can we pray for you as you step into engaging in politics more?

COMMUNION Together

Lead your group in communion in a way that feels right.

- If needed, 1 Corinthians 11:23-27
 - **23** ...that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, **24** and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” **25** In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” **26** For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS at ASC:

1. Have you been baptized? If that is your next step in repentance and faith, **let us know.**
2. **Share testimony of how God is moving in your life/your group in this season? HERE**
3. **How can we come alongside you in more specific ways as a church? Let us know.**
4. **All-Church Prayer Call on Wednesday’s from 1230-1pm each week.**
1-253-215-8782, 86546382360#
5. Next Week, Please **INVITE A FRIEND** to **join us online or at your group** for week 11 of our current series Practically Disciples The Book of James. Share with your **social media** communities, engage our channels during the gathering to help others do so as well
6. **Sign up for ASC Newsletter Weekly Updates HERE.**