



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FROM NOVEMBER 5/6 SERMON

If you missed the sermon, check out biblechapel.org/sermons.

Scripture from this week's sermon:
[Ecclesiastes 5:1-9](#)

1. What were your main take-aways from this message?
2. In [Ecclesiastes 5:8-9](#), Solomon explains that while any human government will have corruption, an organized society is much better than anarchy. Read [Romans 13:1-2](#), [1 Peter 2:13-14](#), [1 Timothy 2:1-4](#). How should a Christian respond to governing authorities?

I have written a little book called [Picking a President](#). In that book, I described seven characteristics to look for in leaders.

For this message I focused on three characteristics.

3. **Moral Courage:** Discuss the definition of moral courage. Read [Ecclesiastes 5:1-7](#), [Psalm 15](#), and [James 5:12](#). What do these verses say about keeping your word, a foundational trait of moral courage?
4. **Prudence:** Discuss the definition of prudence. Read [Hebrews 5:11-14](#). What is the foundational spiritual discipline that allows us to be men and women of prudence?
5. **Love:** Talor and McCloskey say this:

It is very difficult to assess the quality of love in political candidates. Perhaps one manifestation of it is passion. Passion comes from the Greek word for pain or suffering. To say we love something or are passionate about something is a declaration that we are willing to suffer for it. What are candidates passionate about? That is, what are they willing to suffer for? What have they spent their lives doing apart from jobs and political office? What loves or passions made them pursue a political office? ¹

Read [1 John 4:10](#) (Where does Christian love begin?)

Read [John 13:34-35](#) (What does this passage say about letting politics divide us?)

Read [John 12:42-43](#) (What does this passage say about being passionate for what we believe?)

¹ Daniel Taylor and Mark McCloskey, "How to Pick a President: Why Virtue Trumps Policy," *Christianity Today* (Vol. 52, No. 6), June 2008, www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2008/june/17.22.html.