

## PART 6

# JESUS FOLLOWERS AND POLITICS

## THE FORGE

### Jesus Followers and Voting/Taking a Political Stance

(John 13:34-35, Matthew 22:34, Phillipians 2:3-4, 1 John 2:17, Luke 6:27-36))

Notes:

### Jesus Followers and Our Government

(Romans 13:1-7, Titus 3:1-3, Matthew 22:15-22, Phillipians 3:20, Exodus 22:28, 1 Samuel 24:1-151 Peter 2:11-17, Romans 12:2, 1 Timothy 1:5-7)

Notes:

### Discussion Questions:

1. How can LOVE help align and/or prioritize our political beliefs and behaviors?
2. Why do you think scripture gives us direction on how we should respond to authority/government? Does this align or collide with your political beliefs and behaviors? Why or why not?
3. When it comes to politics, whom do you need to do a better job loving-The Lord, Your Neighbor, The Helpless, Your Enemy?
4. Are there changes in either your beliefs or behaviors towards politics that need to be made in order to more closely follow Jesus? If so, what are they?

### Personal Reflection

Sometimes our political beliefs are deeply rooted in our upbringing or certain beliefs/passions. Take some time to reflect/journal about the following:

- What are the contributing factors that have defined political beliefs? (upbringing, research, Buble, media, trauma, hobby, etc)
- Why might others have beliefs that counter my political beliefs? How do I view opposing beliefs (as evil, wrong, good but different?)
- Now take some time to reflect/journal on your behavior towards the topic of politics.
- How do I typically respond when sharing my belief about politics?
- How do I typically behave in opposition to my political beliefs?
- Now prayerfully ask yourself:
- Are my beliefs and behaviors towards politics showing others I am a follower of Jesus or a follower of something else?
- Is Jesus asking me to believe or behave differently towards politics in order to more closely follow Him?

### Prayer

"Jesus, I desire to be known as your disciple, your apprentice, your Follower. As I navigate a heated political environment, help me to love above anything else. Help me to love You more, love my neighbor more, love the helpless more, and love my enemy more. May my political actions honor you and reflect your love for others. Amen."

