

Leader Conversation Guide – Love Your Neighbor: Faith, Politics, and Voting

Main Idea

Faith isn't something we leave at the door when we talk about politics. As followers of Jesus, our faith shapes our values, our decisions, and the way we treat people who see things differently. We are citizens of Heaven first, but God has also given us responsibilities here on earth. He calls us to be involved, to pray for our leaders, and to bring His truth and love into our communities.

This week's message challenged us not to become passive or discouraged by imperfect circumstances. We may not agree on every political issue, but we can remain united in Christ and faithful to the work He has given us. As we begin our discussion, let's consider how we can participate in our communities while keeping our hope firmly rooted in Jesus.

But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior.

I TIMOTHY 2:1-2

Make it Practical:

Remember where your ultimate allegiance belongs.

- We are citizens of Heaven first and American citizens second.
- Represent Jesus as His ambassador in the way you live and treat others.
- Philippians 3:20; 2 Corinthians 5:20

Take responsibility and participate.

- Don't let apathy keep you from doing what is right.
- Vote according to biblical values and recognize the responsibility we have to our communities.
- Romans 13:1–2; Proverbs 29:2

Be salt and light wherever God has placed you.

- Pray for leaders, stay faithful when circumstances are difficult, and keep doing good while you wait for Christ's return.
- 1 Timothy 2:1–4; Galatians 6:9

Talk About It

The sermon described Christians as salt and light—salt preserves, and light reveals. What are some practical ways followers of Jesus can bring truth, goodness, and hope into their communities?

How might your approach to voting change if you viewed it as a responsibility shaped by your faith rather than simply a personal preference?

The message emphasized that Christ's return should inspire faithfulness, not passivity. Is there an area of your life where discouragement or imperfect circumstances have kept you from doing good? What would faithful action look like?

The return of Christ always gives us hope, but never an excuse.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, help us represent You well in everything we do, including how we engage with our communities and our country. Shape our hearts through Your Word, guide our decisions, and teach us to pray for those in authority. When we feel discouraged, remind us that our work for You is never wasted. Keep our hope fixed on Your return and help us remain faithful until that day. In Jesus' name, amen.

Next Steps

Evaluate your priorities. Take time this week to consider whether your political opinions and conversations reflect your identity as a follower of Jesus.

Pray for leaders. Set aside time to pray for local, state, and national leaders, asking God to give them wisdom and to work through them for the good of others.

Take one practical step. If you are eligible to vote, make an informed decision guided by biblical values. Look for ways to serve your community beyond election season, too.