



Jesus and Politics

Week 3: Rules for Engagement | Teacher: Libin Abraham
Sermon Questions for 11.19.2023

**Disclaimer, please make every effort to keep the conversation flowing and within the framework of the questions/sermon. This space isn't the place to go off on political tangents. If you sense this happening in your group, please redirect and encourage people to email pastors@benttree.org to have that conversation with a pastor.*

Opener

How would you describe your Thanksgiving traditions? Do you look forward to it or do you dread it?

Read

Mark 12:13-17; 1 Timothy 2:1-2a; John 11:45-48; 2 Corinthians 5:20; 1 Corinthians 9:19-22;

Main Points

1. 5 points for our engagement in the political and social culture today: (a) prayerful, (b) peaceful, (c) powerful, (d) prophetic, and (e) purposeful.
2. Prayer transforms our political angst into peaceful engagement.
3. Inner peace during a politically tumultuous season is both an act of worship and evangelism.
 - a. If politics is continually robbing you of your peace, that might be an indication that you have misplaced your trust.
4. Through the Church, God makes his appeal to the world and, therefore, a prophetic church shapes the conscious of the world.

Engage with God in a Group

- Reflecting on the 5 points of engagement, which do you see most often in your life when you're thinking about politics?
- How might your engagement with others around divisive topics differ if you started with the 5 points of engagement before you have a conversation?
- When was the last time you genuinely prayed for someone with whom you had/have significant disagreements?
- How can we engage in a politically charged environment without compromising our faith or decreasing gospel influence with our friends and family?

Bottom Line

The Church of Jesus must always and only rely on spiritual power and never on cultural, political, or social power.