



Series: God & Politics

Sermon: Part 1: How Deep Is Your Love?

Date: Sunday, October 27th, 2024

The Church should be the first place where we can talk about anything that affects our lives and this even includes politics.

If we consider ourselves to be followers of Jesus, then we are actually challenged by Jesus to approach our worldview, our convictions, and even our political beliefs through the _____ of our faith in Him rather than create a version of God or faith that supports our worldview, convictions, and political beliefs.

Different Approaches Christians Can Have To Politics

- 1. Hide or _____ politics**
- 2. _____ over politics**
- 3. Go with what is _____ with the culture**

Instead of being conformed into the image of Jesus even with our views, many try to fit God into their image and their agenda as they use God in a way that justifies their political views of what they want to see in the world.

“Of all the commandments, which is the most important?” “The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is One. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.” (Mark 12:28-31)

God must be loved with total obedience and total devotion and this comes from a total surrender of one’s life to Him.

The real test in how we love God is actually demonstrated in how we _____ and treat those around us.

What’s most important is that your love for God, that you say you have on the inside, needs to be demonstrated to those around you on the outside.

Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. (1 John 4:20)

“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:34-35)



“Well said, Teacher,” the man replied. “You are right in saying that God is One and there is no other but Him. To love Him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.” (Mark 12:32-33)

Love God and demonstrate your love for God by how you treat the people around you.

Engaging Lovingly With Others:

1. Always remember that our first allegiance is to _____

2. Aim to be a _____, not a critic

- a. *“Please tell me more about why you believe what you believe?”*
- b. *“How did you come to that conclusion?”*
- c. *“Have you always held this view?”*
- d. *“How does your faith in Jesus inform your current view?”*

3. Know when to _____ up and when to be silent

When we love people well, we gain trust with them and that gives us the platform to speak truth into their lives as we point them to the Savior Who can actually change them and the world.

We should always use our prophetic voice to stand in the gap for others by using our power, our privilege, our resources, and our vote in order to bring justice and peace.

4. Be _____ in how you engage with others

Bottom Line: *If we don't love others the way that we say we love God, then that is actually an indication that we don't actually love God the way that we think we do.*

Questions to reflect on this week or with others:

- 1. *Does your faith in Jesus influence your worldview, convictions, and political beliefs or are you creating a version of God or faith that supports your worldview, convictions, and political beliefs?*
- 2. *Are you still able to love someone unconditionally even when you disagree with them politically?*
- 3. *How is your love for God translating into your love for others?*

Songs used in service: Praise You Anywhere (Brandon Lake), Trust In God (Elevation Worship), The Jesus Way (Phil Wickham), Build My Life (Pat Barrett)

Any prayer requests?

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Name _____ Date: _____ Email: _____

What can we be praying for you about?