



# Life Group Discussion Guide

## October 20 – A Kingdom View of Politics

### Icebreaker:

If you were suddenly dropped into a leadership position in one of the branches of government, which would you choose – Legislative (create laws), Executive (enforce laws), or Judicial (interpret laws)? And why?

### Discussion Questions:

**Note to group leaders:** *Politics is a personal (and sometimes volatile) subject. Proceed with respect. The goal of the discussion is to focus on God's role and a Christian's role in the process – not to have everyone in the group agree on the issues or a party.*

1. Randy reference a political trap that Jesus navigated. What is the current day political trap? (*Group leader hint: "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."*)
2. **Know who you are.**
  - a. **Read John 18:36.** For those in the group who have traveled internationally, give an example of what it is like to visit/stay in a foreign country (or a very different part of the country if there has been no international travel) and describe how the experience of being in an unfamiliar culture made you feel.
  - b. **Read I Thess. 4:10b-12a.** Who do you know who has strong opinions (and is willing to state them), but also leads a quiet life? What makes their life quiet? (*additional prompts if needed...stays quiet, has strong listening skills, truly wants to understand other's opinions, always provides their perspective, prays, has lunch with that person, etc.*)
  - c. **Read I Peter 2:12-17.**
    - i. What is our nation's cultural approach to the "other" party? Provide a few examples for the two main parties.
    - ii. Take a moment to reflect individually...Are **you** respectful to the "emperor" (government) God has allowed to take power? [*Rhetorical – no discussion required.*] And now, the actual discussion question...What can we do to increase our political respect even in the face of political disagreement?
3. **Know our first and primary work!**
  - a. **Read II Tim. 2:1-4.** What is our primary work?

- b. Take 2 or 3 minutes to write down your top 3 priorities this week? And this month? And this year?
  - c. Are your priorities for week, month, year aligned to your life priorities? And are all those Biblically aligned to priorities of the creator of the universe? (Especially as applied to the political process.)
4. **Allow no barriers.**
- a. **Read 2<sup>nd</sup> Cor. 6:3, 1<sup>st</sup> Cor. 9:12 and 1<sup>st</sup> Cor. 9:19-22.**
  - b. How can you lower the barriers to be inclusive of those who are not like you?
5. **Influence, not control.**
- a. **Read Matt. 26:52.**
  - b. Describe a time as an adult when you were controlled, rather than influenced. What was your reaction at the time and afterward?
  - c. Describe a time when you recognized you were experiencing the “tribal blindness” Randy mentioned.
6. **Know your values.**
- a. What are the 5 values Randy referenced that guide his voting?
  - b. What are your values? How do they stand up and align with the character of God revealed in the Bible? Or, how do you even figure out how to align them to God?
  - c. How do you determine which candidates align most closely with those values?

**Actions:**

- Read Romans 12 and 13.
- Identify what you can do to represent God more effectively in your votes. Start small if needed with one candidate or by identifying one core biblical value a week.
- Remember the Aaron Brockett summary:
  - Never obey the government in a way that makes you disobey God.
  - And never defy the government in a way that makes you dishonor God.

## What’s Happening in the Life of Legacy:

More details on these events can be found at [lcc.org/whats-happening](http://lcc.org/whats-happening)

**All Campus**

- **International Conference on Missions:** Nov. 14 – 16. Onsite or Online. Register for free!
- **Legacy’s Annual Banquet:** Nov. 17 at 5:00 pm. Overland Park Convention Center.

## Local Serving Opportunities to Share with Your Group:

*These are the serving requests we have received over the past few weeks!*

**Firm Foundations Prison Ministry** – For more info, contact Matt at [matt@firmfoundationsministries.org](mailto:matt@firmfoundationsministries.org).

- We need your help! Volunteer around our properties, outfit men with starter clothes, mentor men or women, and more!