

# Prayer & Politics

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26 April - Ron Aulbach

Pray - Trusting God in a Hurting World

## LIFE

Building life giving relationships

**CATCH UP:** Spend 20-30 minutes catching up with each member of the group and sharing prayer requests.

**YOUR STORY:** Who is someone you look up to, or looked to as a child?

## GOD

Growing more like Jesus together

### ENGAGE THE MESSAGE:

1. If you want to clear a room, announce that you have a few issues you want to get off your chest about religion and politics. Why is there so much fuel behind these topics? What are some of the hot button issues around politics or religion that get you upset?
2. Pastor Ron shared that it's important to remember who is the ultimate creator of "all things." Colossians 1:16-17 repeats this phrase "all things" three times and specifically mentions "thrones", "powers", "rulers" or "authorities." How have you viewed government? How do you view the people who work in government roles and offices?
3. Read Matthew 5:43-48. Jesus says we are to pray for our enemies. Why are we to pray for our enemies?
4. Pastor Ron challenged us to a season of deep prayer. How are you stretching yourself to pray more? Are you using a timer? How specifically will you pray this week? Write it down in your journal, set up a recurring appointment in your phone.

## OTHERS

Loving God and loving others

**PRAY:** Get in your mind an image or name of someone who has frustrated you because of their political party, stance, or ideals. Commit to praying for them. As you do listen for what God might be laying on your heart to do.

**CHALLENGE:** It's easy to start thinking about someone else who has frustrated you and how they need to change. Instead, the challenge today is to reflect on yourself. Have you been doing a bit too much complaining about politics, government or someone with a different view? Do you need to apologize for the way you've talked about politics? Do you need to fast from something in your life right now, or a partial fast from it? A fast can be from food, social media, shopping, games, almost anything. It's meant to refocus on what you/we really need and asking God for it.