

Religion and Politics

1 November - Ron Aulbach

Philipeans 2:5-11

LIFE

Building life giving relationships

CATCH UP: Spend 20-30 minutes catching up with each member of the group and sharing prayer requests. Make sure to spend a few minutes praying for each other.

YOUR STORY: If you have the “story cards”, lay them out on the table and ask everyone in the group to pick a picture that shows how their week went. Without the cards, share highs & lows. What is one moment this week that was good (high) and one moment that was hard/difficult (low).

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. Talk as a group about how you handle the delicate balance with others to “disagree politically and still love unconditionally.”
3. 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” or “powers” or “rulers” or “authorities.” How have you viewed government? How do you view the people who work in government roles and offices? How does this verse shape how you view government?
4. What role does the media play in shaping your political beliefs? Are you drawn towards the political polarization of news outlets? How do you try to maintain balance when thinking through politics?
5. **Read** Philippians 2:5-11. What stands out to you? How does it change things for you knowing Jesus is Lord?

OTHERS

Loving God and loving others

LOVE OTHERS: How can we do a better job this week loving others with different political views? What's one step you can take?

FALL SERVE: Go to <https://bridgewaycomm.serveday.com/> or our website. Find out ways you can *SERVE* with your group this fall. How can we serve our community as a group?

(Create a SERVE account/download the serve app and start serving!)