

Political Reality | Week 1**Big Idea**

Our current political reality presents an incredible opportunity for followers of Jesus to demonstrate an alternative vision for the future: Life lived in the Kingdom of God.

Scripture

John 17:6-19, Philippians 3:17-21, Matthew 5:13, and Galatians 5:22-23a

Opening Questions

1. What's your favorite fireworks display that you've ever seen?
2. What is your favorite food to enjoy at a 4th of July barbecue?

Bible Discussion

1. Read John 17:6-19. What stands out to you in this passage? How do you think Jesus' prayer relates to the politics of our day?
2. Philippians 3:17-21 highlights where our citizenship is truly from. Where is it, and how does it impact your identity? Does your true identity in Christ affect how you view politics? If so, how?
3. Read Matthew 5:13. What do you think it means to "be the salt of the earth"? What role does accountability play in maintaining one's "saltiness"? How do you think we can be "salt" to the world regarding politics?
4. Galatians 5:22-23a lists the fruit of the Holy Spirit. What are they, and how could implementing them affect our current political climate?

Life Application

5. A recent survey by the Pew Research Center found that 65% of Americans polled expressed feeling exhausted at the mere thought of politics. There is a collective weariness that transcends partisan lines. Where do you fall on this scale? Why do you think that is?
6. Does it help to know that your true identity is a child of God and that your true citizenship is the Kingdom of God where Jesus is King? Why or why not?
7. Share a time when you were "the salt of the earth" to a person or situation, whether by preserving truth and goodness, enhancing the flavor of life, or bringing healing to brokenness. What additional ways can you seek to bring "salt" to this world?
8. What practical ways can you implement the fruit of the Spirit listed in Galatians 5:22-23a? How could this transform how you navigate political conversations? End in prayer, asking God to lead you in grace, integrity, and the love of Christ and to live out your purpose as the salt of the earth.