

St Martins C3 – October 4, 2026

Faith and Politics – Not the Same

Sermon Notes:

This morning we will discuss how we engage with the political realm, though we won't tell you who to vote for! When you **TALK** politics, here are four things to remember.

T. Take note of your influences.

Read Philippians 2:1-4; Matthew 6:31-33

Humility and God's Kingdom should form our overall approach to politics. We need to be aware of other influences pulling us in different directions.

Read Colossians 2:8

The culture around us is persuasive and pervasive. We are being constantly bombarded with slick, packaged political perspectives that are often not aligned with God's perspective. Beware. Take note of your influences and be on guard.

A. Anchor yourself in scripture.

If you are not regularly immersing yourself in the Word of God, you are going to find it nigh on impossible to make good political choices. Scripture is our anchor, we seek to understand Christ and pursue political views in His name; in alignment with His Word.

Read Colossians 3:16-17; Romans 13:1; Micah 6:8; Isaiah 58:6-7; 1 John 4:7-8

Justice, mercy and humility are good starting points. Caring for the poor, feeding the hungry and sheltering the vulnerable are also concepts we see throughout the Bible. Our political views should be rooted in love; pursuing the best interest of others.

L. Leave room for balancing values.

Very few issues are straightforward. We might feel confident about the sanctity of life, loving one's neighbour as oneself, caring for God's creation, and looking after refugees, but – as they say – *the devil is in the detail*.

Even if we immerse ourselves in scripture, we will find that there are different ideas that give us guardrails but do not necessarily lead us to a definite conclusion. And that's okay!

K. Keep humility at the forefront.

We should not demean others if they have a different view. Because we can come to different conclusions, we can vote for any party as a Christian. We can hold different views on any issue, and do so with *humility*.

Paul says in Philippians 3 that “our citizenship is in heaven”. This does not mean we abstain from politics, but rather that we remember that it is not our political views that define us, nor our political allegiances that form our identity. It is God.

Questions for Connect Groups:

Key Point

Christians should be involved in politics, humbly discerning and bringing God's Kingdom to bear on public life.

Questions

What stood out to you from this week's message?

What does this message tell you about God and humans?

Why do most political discussions become contentious?

What are the key influences on your political perspectives?

What influences might pull in a different direction from God's way of seeing the world?

Read together the verses in the **A** section of the sermon. How should they inform our political perspective?

What do you believe is most important when you vote: maintaining Christian morality or promoting care for others?

Think of a practical issue and discuss together a balanced view of how to see it as a Christian (e.g. welfare, the death penalty). Bring in the elements of justice, mercy and love (even tough love). Discuss humbly seeking to listen and learn from others.

Monday Devotion: A Kingdom Perspective

This week, we give you the opportunity to meditate on the verses from the sermon. These verses show it's not just about me, it's about others, and it is about advancing the Kingdom of God.

Scripture

Philippians 2:1-4; Matthew 6:31-33

Observation (What stands out to you?)

Application (What will you do?)

Prayer (What do you want to say to God?)

Tuesday Devotion: Based on Scripture

If you are not regularly immersing yourself in the Word of God, you are going to find it nigh on impossible to make good political choices. We must understand the message of Christ, who He is, what He said, and what He cares about, and then pursue political views & activities in alignment with His Word.

Scripture

2 Timothy 3:16-17; Colossians 3:16-17

Observation (What stands out to you?)

Application (What will you do?)

Prayer (What do you want to say to God?)

Wednesday Devotion: Be Subject

Paul teaches that as Christians we are called to be subject to those who rule. What is remarkable about this is that Paul was referring to the Roman powers who were persecuting and killing Christians. We don't have to agree with everything politicians do, but we respect they are established by God.

Scripture

Romans 13:1

Observation (What stands out to you?)

Application (What will you do?)

Prayer (What do you want to say to God?)

Thursday Devotion: Care for Others

Our political views, whatever they are, should be rooted in love; in relentlessly pursuing the best interest of others. Not just what is popular. Not just what makes us feel good. Not what makes a good social media post. Not what benefits us. But what is genuinely better for others.

Scripture

Micah 6:8; Isaiah 58:6-7; 1 John 4:7-8

Observation (What stands out to you?)

Application (What will you do?)

Prayer (What do you want to say to God?)

Friday Devotion: Citizens of Heaven

Paul reminds us here that our allegiance is not to a set of moral guidelines or to one nation. Our ultimate allegiance is to God and His Kingdom. We give our all to bring His Kingdom to earth but we are citizens of heaven.

Scripture

Philippians 3:4-6; 12-20

Observation (What stands out to you?)

Application (What will you do?)

Prayer (What do you want to say to God?)
