

SHOULD CHRISTIANS BE
**INVOLVED IN
POLITICS?**



LED BY DR. FRANK TUREK



COURSE DESCRIPTION

Should Christians Be Involved in Politics? is a 3-part series led by Dr. Frank Turek, designed to equip you to navigate the intersection of faith and politics by exploring three crucial topics:

- Does Jesus Trump Your Politics?
- What Are the Most Important Issues?
- Does Love Require Approval?

It will also provide thoughtful responses to common objections to Christian involvement in politics, so you can engage confidently with others and even strengthen your own understanding.

Along with each of the three video modules, this companion PDF will resource you with thought-provoking questions and relevant Scripture references that help reinforce what you've learned. There is also a journaling section so you can take notes as you watch the video.

We pray this course will help you live out the teaching of Matthew 5:13-14 that calls you to be the “salt of the earth” and the “light of the world.”

Happy learning!

SESSION ONE

DOES JESUS TRUMP YOUR POLITICS?

- **TOPIC**

Many believe that Christians should refrain from engaging in politics to avoid division and focus solely on preaching the gospel. However, Dr. Frank Turek argues that Christians must care about politics because it significantly impacts their ability to live and preach the gospel. He explains how political environments can either facilitate or restrict religious freedoms, using examples from countries where religious activities are heavily regulated.

- **OPEN**

Have you ever thought that Christians should stay out of politics? What led you to that conclusion?

What concerns do you have about Christians being involved in political matters?

How do you think politics affects your ability to practice your faith?

SESSION ONE

- **READ**

Matthew 5:13-16

You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

- **WATCH**

Watch Session 1 with Frank Turek now. Use the space below to note things that stand out to you as you watch.

SESSION ONE

- **REFLECT**

Dr. Turek states that politics affects your ability to live and preach the gospel. Do you agree? Why or why not?

Think about countries like Iran, Saudi Arabia, and China where preaching the gospel is restricted. How does this contrast with the freedom of religion in your country?

Why do you think it's important for Christians to be involved in protecting freedoms like speech, assembly, and religion?

How might political engagement help in protecting the innocent and upholding moral values in society?

Reflect on the statement, "You can't legislate morality." How does Dr. Turek address this objection in the session?

SESSION ONE

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- **GO DEEPER**

James 2:17-18

In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. But someone will say, ‘You have faith; I have deeds.’ Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds.

Reflect on the statement, “You can’t legislate morality.” How does Dr. Turek address this objection in the session?

Pray for wisdom and guidance in how you can engage politically to protect religious freedoms and promote biblical values.

SESSION TWO

WHAT ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES?

- **TOPIC**

In this session, Dr. Frank Turek explores the concept of moral hierarchy, explaining that while all sins separate us from God, not all sins are equal in their consequences. He discusses the importance of understanding which moral issues should be prioritized, particularly focusing on the issue of abortion and its significance in the political landscape.

- **OPEN**

Have you ever struggled with the idea that some sins might be worse than others? How did you resolve that struggle?

What are some moral issues you believe are critical for Christians to focus on in today's society?

How do you prioritize different moral issues when considering political involvement?

SESSION TWO

- **READ**

Matthew 22:36-40

“Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.” This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.

- **WATCH**

Watch Session 2 with Frank Turek now. Use the space below to note things that stand out to you as you watch.

SESSION TWO

- **REFLECT**

Dr. Turek uses the example of lying to save Jews during the Holocaust to illustrate moral hierarchy. How does this example help you understand the concept of graded absolutism?

Reflect on Jesus' teaching of the greatest commandment. How does this teaching establish a hierarchy of moral obligations?

Consider the phrase, "To whom much is given, much will be required." How does this impact your view on the responsibilities of Christians in a free society?

What are some examples from Scripture that show different levels of sin and judgment?

Dr. Turek discusses greater love and greater sin. How do these concepts influence your understanding of moral priorities

SESSION TWO

- **GO DEEPER**

Romans 13:1-7

Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience. This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.

Romans 13:1-7 discusses the role of governing authorities and our responsibilities towards them. Are there situations or contexts where this passage might not apply or needs to be interpreted differently? Consider historical and contemporary examples where following governing authorities may conflict with following God's higher moral laws

SESSION TWO

Pray for wisdom and guidance in how you can discern and prioritize moral issues in your life and political engagement.

SESSION THREE

DOES LOVE REQUIRE APPROVAL?

- **TOPIC**

In this session, Dr. Frank Turek discusses the misconception that love means approval. He explains that true love sometimes requires standing against harmful behaviors and that this principle should extend to our political involvement to protect innocent people from evil.

- **OPEN**

Have you ever felt pressured to approve of someone's actions to show that you love them? How did you handle it?

What are some ways you think Christians can show love without compromising on biblical truth?

In what ways have you seen the belief that "love means approval" affect your community or church?

SESSION THREE

- **READ**

Proverbs 27:5-6

Better is open rebuke than hidden love. Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses.

- **WATCH**

Watch Session 3 with Frank Turek now. Use the space below to note things that stand out to you as you watch.

SESSION THREE

- **REFLECT**

How does Dr. Turek define the true purpose of government according to the Bible?

Reflect on the quote by Thomas Sowell: “When you want to help people, you tell them the truth. When you want to help yourself, you tell them what they want to hear.” How does this apply to your own experiences?

Consider the concept that love requires sacrifice. How does this challenge your understanding of love in the context of politics and social issues?

How does Dr. Turek’s personal story about being fired for his beliefs illustrate the conflict between cultural approval and standing for biblical truth?

SESSION THREE

- **GO DEEPER**

Ephesians 4:15

Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.

Write down your thoughts on why it's important to speak truth in love. How does Ephesians 4:15 guide us in balancing truth and love, especially when addressing politically and culturally contentious issues?

CONCLUSION

We hope this course has empowered you to integrate your faith into the political realm, providing you with the tools to articulate and defend your beliefs while standing boldly for biblical truth. As you navigate the complexities of today's cultural and political landscape, may you always prioritize Christ and His teachings in every decision you make.

We also hope you'll encourage other Christians, especially within your church and community, to take this course so they too can be equipped to engage in meaningful conversations and advocate for godly principles in the public square. Together, we can inspire a movement of believers who courageously live out their faith in all aspects of life.

Thank you for taking the time to go through this video course and discussion guide. We pray that it has strengthened your resolve to be a light in the world and a voice for truth and righteousness.

God bless you and God bless America!