

Message Notes

God & Country part 1: What's at Stake

1 Corinthians 10:23-33

→ what's on the table

#1 People need to know what's at stake.

→ collective conscience

→ sure values - **vs. 23-26**

#2 Don't judge someone's values on the basis of their behavior.

→ matters of conscience - **vs. 27-32**

#3 You cannot love someone whose perspective you refuse to understand.

→ Paul's strategy - **vs. 33**

#4 People are worth far more than a vote.

→ what you probably agree about

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1. It's okay if not everyone in your group is leaning the same way politically. You can disagree about what's most important for people while agreeing that people are most important. That said, do you feel like there's any relational tension in your life right now because of politics? Are you contributing to that tension at all?
2. Why do you think things are so politically polarized in America right now? Do you think the way Matt described collective conscience is an adequate explanation?
3. In the message it was said that we shouldn't judge a person's values based on their behavior. Is that true of candidates for public office as well? What should or should not be considered in the vetting process?
4. **Read 1 Corinthians 10:25-26.** On what basis does Paul ease the conscience of the person who might be sensitive to the matter described?

What are some modern issues that are important for followers of Jesus to have a firm, biblical understanding of?
5. **Read 1 Corinthians 10:27-28.** Can you think of modern examples where it would be okay to adapt your behavior in order to accommodate someone else's conscience?

When would it not be okay to accommodate their conscience?
6. What are some signs that you might be putting politics before people? Are there any relationships that you need to invest in?